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Illinois

This outline describes major sources of information about families from Illinois. As you read this outline, also study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand the terminology, contents, and uses of genealogical records.

RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY™

The Family History Library has many of the records described in this outline. The major holdings of Illinois records include censuses and county courthouse records, such as probate, land, military, naturalization, and vital records of most counties. They generally date from the year the county was formed to the early 1900s, although some indexes for later years are available.

The library has acquired many printed transcripts and indexes of Illinois county records, as well as copies of census and biographical indexes found at the Illinois State Archives. The Family History Library also has some important collections and indexes for records of the city of Chicago and Cook County. Only a few sources are mentioned specifically in this outline.

Many early records of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) in the city of Nauvoo and Hancock County are mentioned in the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080).

Most sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, microfiche, compact disc, and computer numbers. These are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for *Family History Library*. You can use these numbers to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers™.

You can use the computer number if you have access to the Family History Library Catalog™ on computer. The Computer Number Search is the fastest way to find a source in the catalog.

The Internet is growing in importance to genealogists. Sources found on the Internet are cited in this outline with their Universal Resource Locator (URL) address.

FAMILYSEARCH®

FamilySearch at Family History Centers™
FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing millions of names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your family history research. Some of the records come from compiled sources, and some have been extracted from original sources. The Family History Library™ and many Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch. A few FamilySearch files, for example, the *U.S. Social Security Death Index* and the *U.S. Military Index*, are found on the Family History Library and Family History Center™ version of FamilySearch, but not on the FamilySearch® Internet Genealogy Service.

FamilySearch® Internet Genealogy Service

The web site www.familysearch.org allows you to preserve your genealogy, order Family History Library publications, learn research strategies, and look for information about your ancestors in the following resources:

Ancestral File™, a file of over 35 million names organized into families and pedigrees.

International Genealogical Index®, an index of over 360 million names extracted out of vital records primarily from the British Isles, North America, and northern Europe.

Family History Library Catalog™, a description and classification of over 2 million microfilm reels and hundreds of thousands of genealogical books. You can search the catalog by family name, locality, author, book, or film number.

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SourceGuide™, a resource that contains a collection of over 150 research outlines for states, nations, or genealogy topics, an extensive glossary of word meanings, and a catalog helper.

Family History Centers™, a list of locations where you can order the microfilms described in the Family History Library Catalog and SourceGuide.

Web Sites, a categorized list of thousands of links to Internet sites related to family history.

Collaboration Lists, user-created mailing lists of researchers interested in similar genealogical topics.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG™

The records of the Family History Library™ are listed in the Family History Library Catalog available at the library, at each Family History Center™, and on the Internet at www.familysearch.org/search/searchcatalog.asp. To find a record in the Family History Library Catalog, look in the Locality Search for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS RECORDS
ILLINOIS - LAND RECORDS
ILLINOIS, COOK - VITAL RECORDS
ILLINOIS, COOK, CHICAGO - DIRECTORIES

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS RECORDS
ILLINOIS - LAND RECORDS
ILLINOIS, COOK - VITAL RECORDS
ILLINOIS, COOK, CHICAGO - DIRECTORIES

The following section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the Family History Library Catalog.

RECORD SELECTION TABLE: ILLINOIS

This table can help you decide which records to search. It is most helpful for post-1850 research.

1. In column 1, select a research goal.
2. In column 2, find the types of records most likely to have the information you need.
3. In column 3, find additional record types that may be useful.
4. Look in the section of this outline that corresponds to the record type you chose. It explains what the records might tell you, how to search them, and how to find the records in the Family History Library Catalog™ using the Locality Search. Some records are not at the library.
5. If you do not find the desired information, see the Records Selection Table in the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for more suggestions.

Note: Records of previous research (Genealogy, Biography, History, Periodicals, and Societies) are useful for most goals, but are not listed unless they are especially helpful.

1. If you need	2. Look first in	3. Then search
Adoptions	Court Records, Vital Records	Probate Records, Census
Age	Census, Cemeteries, Obituaries	Vital Records, Military Records, Naturalization and Citizenship
Birth date	Vital Records, Obituaries, Cemeteries	Church Records, Military Records, Biography
Birthplace	Vital Records, Church Records, Obituaries	Census, Military Records, Funeral Homes
Boundaries and origins (places)	Maps, Gazetteers	History, Societies
Children	Census, Probate Records, Obituaries, Genealogy	Vital Records, Church Records, Land and Property
City or parish of foreign birth	Vital Records, Obituaries, Biography	Naturalization and Citizenship, Church Records, Funeral Homes
Country of foreign birth	Census, Naturalization and Citizenship, Vital Records	Obituaries, Military Records, Minorities
Death information	Vital Records, Cemeteries, Obituaries, Newspapers	Probate Records, Funeral Homes, Church Records
Divorce	Divorce Records, Vital Records, Court Records	Newspapers, Census
Emigration information	Emigration and Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship, Census, Maps	Obituaries, Biography, Minorities, Land and Property, Court Records
Ethnic background	Native Races, Minorities, Emigration and Immigration	Naturalization and Citizenship, Church Records, Census, Periodicals
Historical background	History, Periodicals, Gazetteers, Native Races	Maps, Land and Property, Church Records
Immigration date	Emigration and Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship, Census, Societies	Court Records, Biography, Obituaries, Periodicals
Living relatives	Obituaries, Probate Records, Census	Funeral Homes, Land and Property, Biography
Maiden name	Vital Records, Obituaries, Probate Records	Church Records, Funeral Homes, Bible Records
Marriage information	Vital Records, Obituaries, Census, Genealogy	Church Records, Probate Records, Military Records

RECORD SELECTION TABLE: ILLINOIS

1. If you need	2. Look first in	3. Then search
Naturalization	Naturalization and Citizenship, Census, Voting Registers	Court Records, Land and Property, Periodicals
Occupations	Occupations, Census, Obituaries	Biography, Directories, History
Other family members	Census, Obituaries, Probate Records	Funeral Homes, Vital Records, Church Records
Parents	Vital Records, Obituaries, Census, Genealogy	Probate Records, Funeral Homes, Church Records
Physical description	Military Records, Naturalization and Citizenship, Emigration and Immigration	Biography, Occupations
Place-finding aids	Maps, Gazetteers	Archives and Libraries, History, Societies
Places of residence	Census, Military Records, Obituaries, Directories, Taxation, Voting Registers	Land and Property, Naturalization and Citizenship, Public Records
Place of residence when you know only the state	Census, Vital Records, Military Records	Naturalization and Citizenship, Taxation, Directories
Previous research	Genealogy, Biography, Periodicals	History, Archives and Libraries, Societies
Record-finding aids	Archives and Libraries, Church Records, Periodicals	Societies, For Further Reading
Religion	Church Records, Vital Records, Obituaries	Biography, Cemeteries, Funeral Homes
Social activities	Societies, Obituaries, Biography	Cemeteries, Directories, Funeral Homes

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Many archives and libraries have resources such as maps, gazetteers, and other place-finding aids to help you locate information about Illinois. They may have collections of previous research, such as family and local histories and biographies. Many have record-finding aids such as guides to their own collections or inventories of records housed elsewhere in the state.

Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of many archives, libraries, and genealogical and historical societies are given in:

Directory of Illinois Museums Including Historical, Cultural, and Scientific Agencies. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois Association of Museums and Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 1996. This source is not available at the Family History Library™, but most libraries in Illinois have a copy. An earlier source is:

Reithmaier, Tina M., ed. *A Guide to the Cultural Resources in Illinois.* Springfield, Ill.: The Office of the Secretary of State, 1988. (FHL book 977.3 C44g; computer number 595826.)

The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful for genealogical research:

National Archives

- National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)—Great Lakes Region
7358 South Pulaski Road
Chicago, IL 60629
Telephone: 773-581-7816
Internet: www.nara.gov/regional/chicago.html

State Archives, Libraries, and Societies

- Illinois State Archives
Margret Cross Norton Building
Springfield, IL 62756
Telephone: 217-782-3556
Fax: 217-524-3930
Internet:
www.sos.state.il.us/depts/archives/arc_home.html

Since the Illinois State Archives responds only by mail to inquiries, all fax, telephone, and e-mail inquiries must also contain a mailing address.

A helpful guide to the holdings of the Illinois State Archives is:

Bailey, Robert E., and Elaine Shemoney Evans, eds. *Descriptive Inventory of the Archives of the State of Illinois*. 2nd ed. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Archives, 1997. (FHL book 977.3 J53ir 1997; computer number 800084.) This source is also available on compact disc from the state archives.

- Illinois State Library
300 South Second Street
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: 217-782-7596
- Illinois State Historical Library
Old State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: 217-524-6358
Internet: www.state.il.us/hpa/lib
Internet catalog: <http://206.187.34.100/>
- Illinois State Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 10195
Springfield, IL 62791
Telephone: 217-789-1968
Internet: www.tbox.com/isgs

Other genealogical societies are listed in the *Directory of Illinois Museums* and the Reithmaier book, both cited at the beginning of this section.

- Illinois State Historical Society
Old State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: 217-524-6258
Internet: www.prairienet.org/ishs

Illinois Regional Archives Depository System

- Illinois Regional Archives Depository System (IRAD)
Archives Building
Springfield, IL 62756
Telephone: 217-785-1266
Internet:
www.sos.state.il.us/depts/archives/data_loc.html

The IRAD web site contains a catalog to holdings of each participating university.

The IRAD system of archives is collecting and preserving local government records of genealogical and historical value. A listing of local government records in the Illinois Regional Archives Depositories is available at their Internet site or on microfiche that can be ordered from them. Their brochure *Using the IRAD County Records Microfiche List* tells how to use the Internet and the microfiche to locate records. IRAD welcomes inquiries by mail and telephone. Researchers may also visit the following depositories and examine records:

IRAD—Booth Library
Illinois State University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920
Telephone: 217-581-6093

IRAD—Williams Hall
Illinois State University
Campus Box 5500
Normal, IL 61790-5500
Telephone: 309-452-6027

IRAD—Regional History Center
Swen Parson Hall
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115
Telephone: 815-753-1779

IRAD—LIB-144
University of Illinois at Springfield
Post Office Box 19243
Springfield, IL 62794-9243
Telephone: 217-206-6520

IRAD c/o Special Collections
Morris Library—6632
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL 62901-6632
Telephone: 618-453-3040

IRAD—Ronald Williams Library
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 N. St. Louis Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625-4699
Telephone: 773-794-6279

IRAD—University Library
Western Illinois University
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455-1390
Telephone: 309-298-2716

A useful guide to records in IRAD depositories is:

Bailey, Robert E., et al., eds. *A Summary Guide to Local Governmental Records in the Illinois Regional Archives*. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Archives, 1992. (FHL book 977.356/S1 J53s; computer number 668416.)

Another Important Library

- Newberry Library
60 West Walton Street
Chicago, IL 60610
Telephone: 312-943-9090
Telephone to reference desk: 312-255-3512
Internet: www.newberry.org

This library has research guides on various subjects related to genealogy and library holdings cataloged from 1978.

Major collections at the Newberry Library are described in:

Sinko, Peggy Tuck. *Guide to Local and Family History at the Newberry Library*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1987. (FHL book 977.311 A3s; computer number 468327.)

A surname index to genealogical periodicals and local history books in the Newberry Library was completed in 1915 and published as:

The Genealogical Index of the Newberry Library, Chicago. 4 vols. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1960. (FHL book Q 929 N424g; films 928135–37; computer number 334356.)

To learn more about the history and record-keeping systems of Illinois counties, use the 33 inventories of the county archives published around 1940 by the Historical Records Survey. The Family History Library has copies of most of these. These inventories can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - ARCHIVES AND
LIBRARIES - INVENTORIES, REGISTERS,
CATALOGS

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems are important tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. Computer networks themselves can serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers.
- Post queries.
- Send and receive e-mail.
- Search large databases.
- Search computer libraries and on-line catalogs.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Illinois in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. Much of the information is available at little or no cost. Addresses on the Internet change frequently. The following sites are important gateways to additional sites:

FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service. [Salt Lake City]: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 22 March 1999 [cited 7 October 1999]. Available at www.familysearch.org; INTERNET. At this site you can access the Family History Library Catalog™, *Ancestral File*™, *International Genealogical Index*®, *SourceGuide*™, lists of Family History Centers, web sites related to family history, and lists of researchers interested in similar genealogical topics. You can also learn about and order Family History Library publications.

Howells, Cyndi. "U.S. - Illinois - IL." In Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet. Puyallup, Wash.: Cyndi Howells, 6 October 1999 [cited 7 October 1999]. Available at www.cyndislist.com/il.htm ; INTERNET. This list has more links to other Illinois genealogical sites and describes more resources than any other site on the Internet.

"Illinois USGenWeb." In The USGenWeb Project [Internet site]. N.p., 1999 [cited 7 October 1999]. Available at www.rootsweb.com/~ilgenweb/ ; INTERNET. This is a cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet, for each county, state, and country.

"United States Resources: Illinois." In RootsWeb. N.p., 28 August 1999 [cited 7 October 1999]. Available at www.rootsweb.com/roots-l/usa/il.html ; INTERNET. This list of sites and resources includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

"IL GenExchange." In Genealogical Exchange & Surname Registry. N.p., 1996-1999 [cited 7 October 1999]. Available at www.genexchange.com/il/index.cfm ; INTERNET. This site brings searchable data to genealogists including databases (church, cemetery, census, land, immigration, naturalization, and vital records), directories, historical accounts, mailing lists, queries, local surname researchers, and look-up volunteers.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the "Archives and Libraries" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

Some Family History Centers™ have computers with FamilySearch®. These computers do not have access to on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. You can use these services at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

BIBLE RECORDS

Bibles were often given to a bride as a wedding gift, and families recorded in them information about immediate family and close relatives. Bible records can include birth, marriage, and death

dates; parents' names; and names of children and their spouses, including maiden names. A person's age at the time of death may be given. Many families kept Bible records from 1850 to more recent times, although few of these records have survived. Some have been donated to local libraries or societies.

Many Bible records are transcribed in:

Illinois State Genealogical Society, Family Bible Records. 2 vols. Springfield, Ill.: The Society, 1990-94. (FHL book 977.3 V2is; computer number 572704.) A microfilm copy of the original papers of this ongoing project is:

Family Bible Record Copies Collected by the Illinois State Genealogical Society's Family Bible Records Project, ca. 1724-1987. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1994. (FHL films 1954965 and 1954966, item 1; computer number 743950.)

Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Illinois have also collected some Illinois Bible records over the years. One such collection is described in the "Cemeteries" section of this outline. Additional DAR Bible, cemetery, and family record collections for Illinois are indexed by surname only in:

Kirkham, E. Kay. *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States: 45,500 References as Taken from the Microfilm at the Genealogical Society of Utah*. 2 vols. Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1984. (FHL book 973 D22kk; fiche 6089184 [set of 4 fiche]; computer number 298346.) Volume 2 includes Illinois.

Many periodicals publish family data from Bible records. These are referenced in the "Families" section of the *PERiodical Source Index* (PERSI), described in the "Periodicals" section of this outline.

Illinois Bible records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - BIBLE RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - BIBLE RECORDS

BIOGRAPHY

Biographies provide useful genealogical information such as a person's birth date and place; names of family members, including maiden names; education; occupation; and social, political, and religious affiliation. They may also contain a physical description of the person, previous residences, and immigration information.

Biographies are the product of family knowledge or previous research about early settlers and prominent citizens of a state, county, or town. Local histories may contain biographical sketches of lesser-known people.

Major Biographical Collections

Two major archives and libraries in Illinois have biographical indexes to local histories and other sources in their collections. The Illinois State Archives has card indexes to biographies (not every name) found in selected local histories. The archives also have most of the collection of county biographical volumes edited by Newton Bateman, titled *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois* (subtitles, places, and dates of publication vary by county). Many of these are also at the Family History Library™. See the "History" section of this outline for this source.

The Illinois State Historical Library, a division of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, has an extensive collection of local histories. It has a biographical card index to about 10,000 Illinoisians featured in local histories and other sources. The library also has every-name indexes to some of the histories. Many of its printed sources are available through interlibrary loan, and the library will do limited searches for a fee. Excellent collections are also at the Newberry Library. See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for addresses.

Biographical Encyclopedias

Examples of statewide biographical encyclopedias are:

Encyclopedia of Biography of Illinois. 3 vols. Chicago: Century Publishing and Engraving, 1892–1902. (FHL book 977.3 D3e; film 1421972; computer number 267366.)

The United States Biographical Directory and Portrait Gallery of Eminent Self-made Men, Illinois Volume. 2 vols. Chicago: American Biographical Publishing, 1876. (FHL book 977.3 D3u; fiche 6048198 [set of 8]; computer number 264232.) This book is a reprint of the 1883 edition, published under a slightly different title. (FHL film 1000172, item 2; computer number 218462.)

Illinois Biographical Dictionary: People of All Times and All Places Who Have Been Important to the History and Life of the State. New York: Somerset, 1993. (FHL book 977.3 D36i; computer number 514520.)

The Biographical Encyclopedia of Illinois of the Nineteenth Century. Philadelphia: Galaxy Pub., 1875. (FHL film 1000172; computer number 198617.)

See the "Biography" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for information on nationwide biographical collections. See also the "History" and "Genealogy" sections of this outline for additional sources.

To find biographies and published family histories on specific surnames in the Family History Library Catalog™, use a Surname Search. Typing the word *Illinois* in the Keyword Search will limit the search to families in Illinois.

The Family History Library has many collected biographies and local or county histories with biographical sketches on residents. These can be found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - BIOGRAPHY
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - BIOGRAPHY
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - HISTORY
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - HISTORY

CEMETERIES

Cemetery records, such as tombstone and sexton's records, may give birth and death dates, age at death, name of spouse and children, and the maiden names. Sometimes they include birthplace. Tombstones may have symbols or insignias indicating military service and social or religious affiliations. Family members may also be buried nearby.

Locating Cemeteries

The Illinois Cemetery Project of the Illinois State Genealogical Society has identified hundreds of cemeteries and their exact locations in the state. This information is on their Internet site:

"Cemetery Location Project." In Illinois State Genealogical Society. Springfield, Ill.: ISGS, 1999 [cited 19 July 1999]. Available at <http://www.tbox.com/isgs/ilcemetery.html> ; INTERNET. County-by-county listing of cemetery names, locations, and whether their tombstones have been abstracted. The information has also been published regularly since 1972 in *Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly* cited in the "Periodicals" section of this outline. Headstone abstracts are *not* part of this project.

Internet Tombstone Transcripts and Index

Genealogical society members often copy and publish tombstones inscriptions (abstracts) on paper or on the Internet. The USGenWeb Archives have headstone abstracts from over 70 cemeteries listed on their Internet site at:

"The Illinois Tombstone Transcription Project." In USGenWeb Archives Digital Library [database on-line]. N.p.: USGenWeb Archives, 17 February 1999– [cited 15 July 1999]. Available at www.rootsweb.com/~cemetery/illinois.html ; INTERNET. This is a county-by-county list of cemeteries. The highlighted cemeteries on the web page include tombstone abstracts. Abstracted cemeteries are indexed in:

"Search the USGenWeb Archives Digital Library." In USGenWeb Archives Digital Library [database on-line]. N.p.: USGenWeb Archives, 22 September 1997– [cited 15 July 1999]. Available at www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/ussearch.htm ; INTERNET. This web site indexes cemetery abstracts and other items. Select the state of interest, type the name of the ancestor you seek in the "Query" field, and click **Search**. For best results, use the "Search Tips" and examples at the bottom of the web page. The computer will list any matches it finds and give you the option of viewing the full transcript.

Print and Microfilm Abstracts

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) collection contains tombstone inscriptions from Illinois cemeteries. This collection, microfilmed at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C., also includes transcripts of Bible records, cemetery records, church records, family records, marriages, deaths, obituaries, and wills:

Daughters of the American Revolution (Illinois). Genealogical Collection. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1970. (On 35 FHL films beginning with 848640; computer number 453313.) The volumes are generally arranged by county and many have individual indexes.

An important collection of unindexed tombstone abstract records is:

Cemetery Records of Illinois. 13 vols. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society, 1960–66. (FHL book 977.3 V22g; films 824271–74; computer number 270013.)

The Family History Library™ has a county-by-county list of cemeteries as of 1988:

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Family History Library (Salt Lake City, Utah.) *Index to United States Cemeteries*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (FHL films 1206468–94; another filming is on 1206461–7; computer number 475648.) Illinois is on film 1206471 (or 1206463–64 for the other filming).

Another list of the names and addresses of cemeteries is in Gayle Beckstead and Mary Lou Kozu's book *Searching in Illinois: A Reference Guide to Public and Private Records*, described in the "For Further Reading" section of this outline.

Several periodicals have published inscriptions and inventories from Illinois cemeteries. These are referenced in the "Places" section of the *Periodical Source Index* (PERSI), described in the "Periodicals" section of this outline.

For more information on cemetery records, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972.) To find more sources in the Family History Library Catalog™, use a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - CEMETERIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - CEMETERIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
CEMETERIES

For records on related record types, see the "Funeral Homes," "Obituaries," and "Vital Records" sections of this outline.

CENSUS

Census records can show the following information for each member of a household: name, age, state or country of birth, marital status, occupation, race, citizenship, and immigration information. They can also give clues to marriage dates, death dates, migration patterns, previous residence, adoptions, and divorces. Parents or other relatives may also have been living with a family when a census was taken. People listed in the census with the same surname may be related. Statewide census indexes can help you locate families when you have only their state of residence.

Federal Censuses

Population Schedules. Many federal census records are at the Family History Library™, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* (30972) provides detailed information about these records.

U.S. federal censuses of Illinois were taken every ten years from 1800 to 1990. The 1800 census is lost, and only Randolph County remains from the 1810 census. The 1890 census was destroyed, except for a few names from Mound Township, McDonough County. All other Illinois federal censuses from 1820 to 1920 are available to the public.

Statewide surname indexes list every household in the Illinois censuses. For most families, they index only the first person listed in each household, who was usually the father or head of the household. Many families, however, had relatives or friends with a different surname living with them when the census was taken. In those cases, the first person of each surname in the household is included in the index.

Statewide surname indexes for the 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, and 1860 censuses have been published. Indexes for the 1870 census for Chicago and Cook County are also available in book form. There is a SOUNDEx (phonetic) index on microfilm for part of the 1880 census (households with children born between the last half of 1869 and census day in 1880) and all of the 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses.

Countywide indexes to federal censuses often contain the names of every person in the household and may also include heads of households that were overlooked or whose names were misspelled in statewide indexes. Countywide indexes can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - CENSUS - [YEAR] -
INDEXES

Multi-state census indexes usually contain the same information gathered in preparing statewide indexes. These records often index censuses (federal, state, and territorial), tax lists, and other records that identify where people lived in the area. Multi-state indexes containing Illinois records include:

Jackson, Ronald Vern. *AIS Microfiche Indexes of U.S. Census and Other Records*. Bountiful, Utah: Accelerated Indexing Systems International, 1984. (Not cataloged, but it is available on microfiche at many Family History Centers™.) Census indexes for 1790, 1800, and 1810 are combined together on Search 1. There is a composite index for the mortality schedules of 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 on Search 8. Separate Illinois 1830, 1840, and 1850 indexes are on other searches.

Census records for selected counties of many states have been combined in an index on compact disc:

Census Index: U.S. Selected States/Counties
Version 3.0. Brøderbund Software, Novato, Calif., 1995–96. (FHL compact disc no. 9, pts. 116, 310–320, 335; computer number 773983.) The compact discs identified as parts 311–320 include Illinois and index portions of the 1790–1880 censuses. (Not available at Family History Centers.)

A master name index to the census on compact discs and to other compact disc indexes produced by Brøderbund is contained in the following record:

FamilyFinder™ Index and Viewer Version 4.0.
Brøderbund Software, Orem, Ut., 1997. (FHL compact disc no. 9 1997 index; computer number 808500.) This index can be searched by name but not by locality or record type. (Not available at Family History Centers.) This is part of Family Tree Maker's Family Archives series.

To locate other multi-state census indexes in the Family History Library Catalog™, use a Locality Search under:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES

When census indexes are not available or omit or incorrectly index a name, you can still look for the name in the original census schedules. For large cities, it helps to first learn a person's address by searching city directories created near the time of the census. Information for a directory was gathered long before publication, so a directory from the year after the census may match the census better than the one published during the census year. (See the "Directories" section of this outline for more information.) Once you learn a person's address, search the original census schedules for that address.

The following are reference tools that help determine which census schedule and enumeration district to search for a specific address:

Kirkham, E. Kay. *A Handy Guide to Record-searching in the Larger Cities of the United States: Including a Guide to Their Vital Records and Some Maps with Street Indexes with Other Information of Genealogical Value*. Logan, Utah: Everton, 1974. (FHL book 973 D27kc; fiche 6010059-60; computer number 55656.) This includes ward maps and street maps for Chicago, 1850 to 1855 and 1878.

Census Descriptions and Geographical Subdivisions and Enumeration Districts. National Archives Microfilm Publications T1224 and T1210. These describe the boundaries of the area covered by each census taker:

- 1880: FHL film 1402860; computer number 299426

- 1900: FHL film 1303020; computer number 117685
- 1910: FHL film 1374002; computer number 176643
- 1920: FHL film 1842705; computer number 687949

United States. Bureau of the Census. *Cross Index to Selected City Streets and Enumeration Districts, 1910 Census*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1283. Washington D.C.: National Archives, 1984. (FHL fiche 6331481 [set of 51 fiche]; computer number 258163.) Commonly referred to as the *39 Cities Index*, this is arranged by street addresses and gives the corresponding 1910 census enumeration districts. Chicago is on parts 6-12 of the fiche, and Peoria is on part 37.

Maps are helpful tools to use with censuses because of the many boundary changes over the years. Two publications are especially helpful to use with censuses in Illinois: Long's *Illinois, Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*, cited in the "Maps" section of this outline; and Thorndale and Dollarhide's *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920*, cited in the "Maps" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) under the subheading "Locating Township and County Boundaries."

Mortality Schedules

The Illinois State Archives has mortality schedules, which list persons who died during the twelve months before the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 federal censuses were taken. (Only Kendall through Woodford counties exist for the 1870 mortality schedules.) In addition to providing the same information about the deceased person that the regular census schedules provided for the living, mortality schedules also state the month and cause of death and the number of days ill prior to death. The Family History Library has copies of the schedules:

Mortality Schedules of Illinois, 1850-1880.

Illinois: Record Management Division, Secretary of State Office, 1967. (FHL films 1421024-030; computer number 288899.)

Territorial and State Censuses

Territorial and state censuses were taken in 1810, 1818, 1820, 1825, 1830, 1835, 1840, 1845, 1855, and 1865. The 1810, 1818, and 1820 state censuses have been indexed and published. Some earlier Illinois residents were also listed in the 1807 Indiana territorial census:

Census of Indiana Territory for 1807. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1980. (FHL book 977.2 X2c 1807; film 1033927, item 4, or 1428705, item 5; computer number 69555.) This includes a surname index.

Jackson, Ronald Vern, et al. *Indiana 1807 Census Index*. North Salt Lake, Utah: Accelerated Indexing Systems International, 1986. (FHL book 977.2 X22j 1807; computer number 563122.)

The 1810–1855 territorial, state, and federal censuses have been indexed in one alphabetical sequence along with county election returns and other records. Bear in mind, however, that records for the 1825, 1835, and 1845 state censuses of many counties are missing or incomplete. The Illinois State Archives has the original card index complete through 1855. A microfilm copy made before the index was completed is:

Name Index to Early Illinois Records. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Archives, 1975. (On 248 FHL microfilms beginning with 1001592; computer number 310725.) At the time the index was microfilmed, most of the indexing of the 1855 census had not been completed.

Though not complete as of 1998, a separate card index to the 1865 state census is at the Illinois State Archives.

A comprehensive list of state and territorial censuses for Illinois and other states is Ann S. Lainhart's *State Census Records*, cited in the "Census" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) under the subheading "Colonial, State, and Local Censuses."

The microfilm numbers of most of the Illinois state census records available and listed in the Family History Library Catalog are in:

Buckway, G. Eileen, and Fred Adams, comps. *U.S. State and Special Census Register: A Listing of Family History Library Microfilm Numbers*. 2 vols. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1992. (FHL book 973 X2be; fiche 6104851–52; computer number 594855.)

All state census records at the library, including those received since the above book was published, can be found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - CENSUS - [YEAR]
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - CENSUS

Census Substitutes

Records that identify a person's place of residence are often used as substitutes for censuses, especially during colonial times when censuses were not required or when censuses are missing. Some census substitutes include tax lists, oaths of allegiance, and lists of petitioners. These records may be published as statewide census indexes that often provide only vague references to the source of the information indexed.

Some early Illinois censuses, tax lists, or lists of petitioners are embedded in larger collections and may require page-by-page searching to locate them. Examples include the *Kaskaskia Manuscripts, 1714–1816* and the *Territorial Papers of the United States* (volumes 16 and 17), both of which are described in the "History" section of this outline.

Voting records, another excellent substitute for census records, are discussed in the "Voting Registers" section of this outline. City directories and tax lists are described in the "Directories" and "Taxation" sections of this outline.

CHURCH RECORDS

Church records and the information they provide vary greatly depending on the denomination and the record keeper. They may contain information about members of the congregation, such as age; date of baptism, christening, or birth; marriage information and maiden names; and death date. Records may include names of other relatives who were witnesses or members of the congregation.

The members of some churches were predominantly of one nationality or ethnic group.

In the decades following statehood, the largest religious groups in Illinois were the Methodist, Episcopal, Baptist, and Presbyterian churches. These groups came primarily from the southern states. At the same time, Congregationalists, Lutherans, and members of the Reformed faiths came from the eastern states. Roman Catholics became numerous in Illinois after 1860, especially in the northern industrial areas. Several counties in the northeastern part of the state became havens for Lutheran Scandinavians.

The Illinois State Archives collected some early Illinois church records that were given to the Illinois State Library. The Family History Library™ has microfilms of records from Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist churches and copies of many Catholic records from the Chicago area. The library also has some published histories of various denominations, including the Catholic, Methodist, Disciples of Christ, Brethren, Mennonite, and Baptist churches. See the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080) for records of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) in Illinois.

Church histories frequently provide valuable historical background for the communities the churches serve. Inventories of church archives are also available for several denominations. See the "Church Records" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for more repositories and major collections.

Most church records are scattered and remain in the custody of existing churches. Some, however, have been collected into central repositories, especially those from congregations that have merged or disbanded. You can write to the following addresses to learn where records of an area are located:

Baptist

American Baptist Historical Society
1106 South Goodman St.
Rochester, NY 14620
Telephone: 716-473-1740

The American Baptist Historical Society in Rochester, New York, is national in scope, though records in the archive cover primarily the eastern United States. The records are mostly statistical in

nature. They may have some information about ministers and missionaries, but they may have little more than lists of lay members. Any records of births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths were kept by the choice of the minister, not by mandate of the church. The departing minister may or may not have left his records with the church or a succeeding minister.

Lutheran

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA Archives)
8765 West Higgins Road
Chicago IL 60631-4198
Telephone: 312-380-2818
Fax: 312-380-2977

The ELCA Archives (formerly known as the ALC Archives or Archives of the American Lutheran Church) is the central archive for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States. If a church unit is still active, the archives will help locate its records. If a church has been disbanded, its records will be located in the archives. The archives will accept genealogy requests by mail. It has microfilm copies of records for many congregations, which can be borrowed for a small fee. A partial list of church records in the archive collection is listed in:

ALC Archives. *ALC Congregations on Microfilm*. Dubuque, Iowa: The Archives, 197-?. (FHL fiche 6330690-93; computer number 170040.) The records are arranged by state and city of congregation. Fiche 6330690 includes Illinois.

Methodist

Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference
United Methodist Church Historical Society
1211 North Park Street
Bloomington, IL 61701
Telephone: 309-828-5092, ext. 227

The Illinois Great Rivers Conference UMC Historical Society was recently created through the merger of the Southern and the Central conferences and is still consolidating its records and establishing policy. Its records cover central and southern Illinois. They have records of some disbanded congregations. Members of the staff will do some searching of those records for a small fee.

Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary
Attn: Archives
2121 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60201
Telephone: 847-866-3909

The Archive of the Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary houses the records of the Northern Illinois Conference of the Evangelical Methodist Church. In addition to records of disbanded churches, it has records of many Scandinavian congregations. The archive has no direct phone line, so you will need to make inquiries by mail. Selected records of the archive have been microfilmed and are in the Family History Library collection.

Roman Catholic

Archives of the Archdiocese of Chicago
Joseph Cardinal Bernadine Archive and Record Center
Attn: Assistant Research Archivist
711 West Monroe
Chicago, IL 60661
Telephone: 312-831-0711

The telephone number of the Archive and Record Center accesses a voice mail menu. Selecting the "reference" option allows a caller to place a request for genealogical research. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of parish records from the Archdiocese of Chicago to 1915.

Church histories and records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CHURCH RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CHURCH HISTORY

COURT RECORDS

Names of many Illinois residents may be found in civil court records of actions such as disputes over property or settlement of estates. Criminal court records have information of people involved in confrontations, thefts, or destruction of property. These records may give a person's age, residence, occupation, and family relationships. Friends and neighbors may have given depositions as witnesses.

Since 1818, courts in Illinois have consisted of a Supreme Court and inferior courts. Major courts that kept records of genealogical value were established as follows:

County courts were countywide courts with jurisdiction over minor civil and criminal cases and, in some counties, probate matters. Separate probate courts were established in larger counties.

Municipal (or City) courts had jurisdiction with circuit courts over civil and criminal actions.

Justices of the peace had jurisdiction over misdemeanors and minor civil cases.

County commissioners' courts originally had countywide jurisdiction over public roads, turnpikes, canals, taxes, and licenses, but have evolved into administrative rather than judicial bodies.

Circuit courts were created as early as 1819. They became the major trial courts in 1964 when all other trial courts were abolished. The circuit courts have handled civil and criminal cases, probate and estate files, and guardianship, adoption, divorce, and naturalization records. Currently, there are 21 judicial circuits and a Cook County circuit in Illinois. Most of these serve several counties, and court sessions are held in each county. The circuit clerks in each county hold the records of cases heard in their court. Many court records have been transferred to IRAD depositories by the counties.

Other court records in Illinois were created by the Illinois Supreme Court (established in 1818) and intermediate appellate and police courts. The Chicago court system has included mayoral, superior, criminal, and family courts.

Since 1964, the records of all earlier courts have been in the custody of the circuit court in each county. Records of the former Cook County Superior Court and some other Chicago area courts are now with:

Circuit Court of Cook County, Archives
Department
Room 1113, Richard J. Daley Center
Chicago, IL 60602
Telephone: 312- 443-5500

For more information about court procedures and records, see:

Clayton, John. *The Illinois Fact Book and Historical Almanac, 1673–1968*. Carbondale, Ill.: Southern Illinois University Press, 1970. (FHL book 977.3 A7c; computer number 265509.)

A history of the early court system in Illinois is:

Crossley, Frederic Bears. *Courts and Lawyers*. 3 vols. Chicago: American Historical Society, 1916. (FHL book 977.3 D3c; film 934965; computer number 272980.) This work gives a brief history of the court system in Illinois and biographical sketches of those who affected the history of the courts and those who were part of the bar about 1916.

The court structure is described in:

Klein, Fannie J. *Federal and State Court Systems: A Guide*. Cambridge, Mass.: Ballinger Publishing, 1977, 103–8. (FHL book 973 P2kL; computer number 271781.)

See the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for more detailed information on court records. Refer to the “Guardianship,” “Probate Records,” and “Naturalization and Citizenship” sections of this outline for information about those specific court records.

Court records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - COURT RECORDS
ILLINOIS - LAW AND LEGISLATION
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - COURT RECORDS

DIRECTORIES

Directories have been published for various Illinois cities and counties since the 1830s, though they may not exist for every year. Some directories focus on the businesses or occupations of an area, while others include heads of households, landowners, and voters.

City and county directories are similar to present-day telephone books and are useful records for locating people. They were often published annually, listing heads of households, employed household members, and their occupations and addresses. They can be used with census records or as substitutes for them.

Directories are particularly helpful for research in large cities where a high percentage of the people were renters, new arrivals, or temporary residents. In fact, a directory may be the only source that lists a person if he was not registered to vote and did not own property. Most households were included because the directories were created for salesmen, merchants, and others interested in contacting residents of an area.

Directories have other clues that may require careful study to discover. For example, people in similar or related occupations were often relatives, in-laws, or friends. A year-by-year study of directories may reveal the movements of ancestors and relatives within the city and sometimes to or from other cities.

The Family History Library™ has various directories from throughout the state of Illinois. Many were published as county directories listing inhabitants of major towns in the county. Rural directories collected information on farmers, dairymen, and other rural residents.

City Directories

The following are typical of the city directories in the Family History Library Catalog™ for Chicago and Cook County:

- 1839–1860 . . . (FHL fiche 6043786–808; computer number 656361.)
- 1844–1901 . . . (FHL films 1000739–54; computer number 277305.)
- 1861–1929 . . . (FHL films 1376659–705, 1759633–49; computer number 656361.)

The Lurie index gives names and addresses of residents of Chicago in 1937:

Lurie Index of People in Chicago in 1937 As Well As All of the Voters' Registration for Chicago. Tucson, Ariz.: Reproduction, 19–?. (FHL films 933501–38; computer number 294506.)

Directories for other cities, such as Peoria, Rockford, and Springfield, are also available.

Business Directories

A series of directories of businesses in Illinois and Missouri is:

Illinois (State) Directories. Woodbridge, Conn: Research Publications, 1980-84. (FHL fiche 6043985-989 [set of 41]; computer number 654004.) The original directories in this collection were published between 1847 and 1860 by various publishers.

Locating Directories

The Newberry Library, the Chicago Historical Society (Clark Street at North Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614), and other libraries have excellent collections of city and county directories.

The Family History Library has compact discs that incorporate telephone directories for most of the United States. These directories are not available at Family History Centers™, but may be used at the Family History Library. Current telephone directories can also be found on the Internet and may assist in finding living relatives.

Examples of directories that may be found in an archive are: city directories, telephone directories, church directories, occupational directories, farmers directories, or rosters of society members. To find these directories in the Family History Library Catalog, do a Locality Search for the town, county, or state, depending on the size of the area an organization may cover. Record types to select include:

ILLINOIS - DIRECTORIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - DIRECTORIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
DIRECTORIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
SOCIETIES - DIRECTORIES

DIVORCE RECORDS

In the early 1800s, the legislature, the circuit courts, and city courts granted divorces. Divorce records may indicate the date and place the marriage was dissolved. Circuit or city courts have handled most divorce proceedings. The Superior Court of Cook County in Chicago also has jurisdiction over divorces.

The Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Vital Records has a register of divorces statewide and can verify the date and county of a divorce or annulment recorded after 1 January 1962. Their address can be found in the "Vital Records" section of this outline.

The actual records before and after 1962 are available in the county where the divorce occurred, and certified copies may be obtained from the Clerk of the Circuit Court. IRAD depositories have divorce records for many counties.

The Family History Library has copies of the records for some counties. They can be found in the Family History Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - COURT RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - DIVORCE RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - VITAL RECORDS

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Immigration and Migration

Pre-statehood settlers of English and Ulster Scots descent came from Virginia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Kentucky by way of the Ohio River, where they joined a few hundred Frenchmen already in the area. The first blacks came to Illinois in 1719 with the French, but their numbers remained few until after the Civil War. Indian tribes relinquished their last remaining Illinois lands shortly after the Black Hawk War of 1832.

When Illinois became a state in 1818, most of the population lived near the waterways of southern Illinois. During the 1830s and 1840s, most settlers came from New York and New England by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes or on the National Road. They settled the central and northern counties. Overseas immigration of the 1840s and 1850s was composed mainly of Germans and Irish. After the Civil War they were joined by Austrians, Hungarians, Russians, Scandinavians, Italians, and Poles.

Iowa was the destination of many who left Illinois in the 1850s. Illinois families also helped settle Kansas and Nebraska. Others joined the California gold rush or traveled the Oregon Trail to the Pacific Northwest.

Records

Major ports of entry for immigrants who settled in Illinois include New Orleans, New York, and Canadian ports. Records of passengers have not been found for the ports and harbors in Illinois.

The "Emigration and Immigration" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) lists several important sources for finding information about immigrants to this country. These sources include many references to people who settled in Illinois. The *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111) introduces the principles, research strategies, and additional record types you can use to identify an immigrant's original hometown.

See the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080) for records of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) in Illinois.

Histories

Some helpful published sources about Illinois immigrants include:

Wyman, Mark. *Immigration History and Ethnicity in Illinois: A Guide*. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Historical Society, 19-?. (FHL book 977.3 A1 no. 293; computer number 592601.)

White, Elizabeth Pearson. "Illinois Settlers and Their Origins." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (Washington, D.C.: The Society) vol. 74, no. 1 (Mar. 1986): 7-17. (FHL book 973 B2ng; computer number 209748.)

Freund, Hanns Egon. *Emigration Records From the German Eifel Region, 1834-1911: with Major Emphasis on Those Emigrants Whose Final Destinations Were Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan*. Crystal Lake, Ill.: McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society, 1991. (FHL book 977 W2f; computer number 618779.)

To learn more about migration into the Illinois area, see:

Rubincam, Milton. "Migrations to Illinois, 1673-1860." In *Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly*. (Springfield, Ill.: The Society) vol. 4, no. 3 (Oct. 1972):127-34. (FHL book 977.3 B2is; film 1954961; computer number 208820.)

Dollarhide, William. *Map Guide to American Migration Routes, 1735-1815*. Bountiful, Utah: AGLL Genealogical Services, 1977. (FHL book 973 E3d; computer number 805237.) This includes a place-name index.

See the "Minorities" and "Naturalization and Citizenship" sections of this outline for further information.

Other sources on emigration and immigration can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION
ILLINOIS - MIGRATION, INTERNAL

Maps of several migration trails into Illinois and other states are found in *The Handy Book for Genealogists*. This well-known reference is described in the *United States Research Outline* (30972) under the subheading "For Ready Reference" at the end of the outline.

FUNERAL HOMES

Funeral home records vary greatly in the information they contain. Some give details about the deceased, such as the date and place of death, burial, and birth; names of parents, spouse, and other family members; maiden name; religion; and name(s) of the person(s) paying the funeral expenses. A funeral home record commonly includes a biography or obituary and the names and residences of surviving relatives. Morticians frequently file the death certificate and have a copy of the obituary published in newspaper(s) as requested by the family.

Some funeral home records start as early as the 1880s, although many of the earliest records have been lost or destroyed. A funeral home currently in business in the area may have old records, because mortuaries that changed hands or relocated often saved the old records. Some records have been given to local libraries or societies.

Funeral home personnel are generally very helpful and are familiar with the locations of active cemeteries and sextons or caretakers you can contact. Telephone calls or personal visits are generally more effective than letters.

The following two nationwide sources are helpful in finding local funeral homes. Both sources are arranged by state and town:

The American Blue Book of Funeral Directors.

New York: Kates-Boyston Publications, 1988.
(FHL book 973 U24a; computer number 2744.)

National Yellow Book of Funeral Directors.

Youngstown, Ohio: Nomis Publications, 1996.
(FHL book 973 U24y; computer number 535488.) This book also lists mortuary colleges, Veterans Administration (VA) hospitals and cemeteries, general hospitals, and daily newspapers.

Most funeral homes are listed in both publications, though there may be some differences. Funeral homes in any area usually have a current copy of one or both of these books.

A few published funeral home records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - FUNERAL HOMES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - BUSINESS RECORDS AND COMMERCE

GAZETTEERS

Gazetteers list geographical names such as towns, settlements, villages, districts, rivers, and mountains. They identify these locations and sometimes, give historical and biographical information concerning early residents. Several helpful guides to Illinois place-names have been published. Some with historical place-names include:

Beck, Lewis Calcb. *A Gazetteer of the States of Illinois and Missouri*. 1823. Reprint, New York: Arno Press, 1975. (FHL book 977 E5b; film 1036690, item 6; fiche 6010063 [set of 3]; computer number 214536.) This gazetteer is valuable for the historical insights it offers, since many communities listed were only settled a few years before this book was published.

Peck, J. M. *A Gazetteer of Illinois, in Three Parts: Containing a General View of the State, a General View of Each County, and a Particular Description of Each Town, Settlement, Stream, Prairie, Bottom, Bluff, etc., Alphabetically Arranged*. Philadelphia: Grigg & Elliot, 1837. (FHL film 897008, item 3; computer number 263701.)

Adams, James N., comp. *Illinois Place Names*.

New ed. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Historical Society, 1989. (FHL book 977.3 E5aa; computer number 612631; 1968 edition is fiche 6051287 [set of 4 fiche]; computer number 265532.) Containing nearly 15,000 entries, this source lists the names and counties of many current and discontinued post offices. It also lists older names for many existing communities.

Other gazetteers and place-name resources can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - GAZETTEERS
ILLINOIS - NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL
ILLINOIS - HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - GAZETTEERS

For more information about Illinois places, see the "Maps" section of this outline.

GENEALOGY

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections of previous research and indexes of genealogical value. You must usually search these in person.

Nationwide Indexes

You can find information on the following nationwide genealogical indexes in the indicated sections of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

- *Ancestral File*™ ("Genealogy" section. Also available on FamilySearch® Internet Genealogy Service.)
- *FamilyFinder*™ Index ("Census" section. Also available on the Internet at www.familytreemaker.com/allsearch.html .)

- Family History Library Catalog™ Surname Search (“Introduction” and “Genealogy” sections. Also available on FamilySearch® Internet Genealogy Service.)
- *Genealogical Index of the Newberry Library* (“Genealogy” section)
- *Index to American Genealogies* (“Genealogy” section)
- *Index to National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC)* (“Genealogy” section. Also available on the Internet at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/nucmc.html>.)
- *International Genealogical Index®* (“Genealogy” section. Also available on FamilySearch® Internet Genealogy Service.)
- *Old Surname Index File* (“Genealogy” section)
- *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* (“Periodicals” section. Also available on the Internet at www.Ancestry.com/ancestry/search/3165 for a subscription fee.)

Statewide Indexes and Family Group Collections

Some important collections of compiled genealogies and genealogical source material for Illinois in the Family History Library™ include:

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) (Illinois) Genealogical Collection. See the “Cemeteries” section of this outline for information about this collection.

Champaign County Historical Archives. *Family Files.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1978. (FHL films 1026779–786 and 1027162–165; computer number 190543.) This alphabetical collection of family group records, typescript genealogies, and newspaper clippings was microfilmed in 1978 at the Champaign County Courthouse.

Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois Ancestor Charts. Carterville, Ill.: The Society, 1994–95. (FHL book 977.3 C4g; computer number 742955.) Pedigree charts of the ancestors of members of the society from 28 southern Illinois counties are included in this work.

Mathis, Linda Gale. *Surname Index of the Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois.* Carterville, Ill.: The Society, 1986. (FHL book 977.3 A3s; computer number 493338.) This index to the ancestors of members of the society includes the names of the submitters. It contains dates and places of birth, marriage, and death, and names of spouses.

Lunde, Mrs. O.B. *Illinois State Genealogical Society Surname Index.* Decatur, Ill.: Illinois State Genealogical Society, 1981. (FHL book 977.3 D2L; film 1421706, item 4; computer number 198229.) This contains information about ancestors of ISGS members and gives birth and marriage dates and names of spouses.

Indexed five-generation pedigree charts of members of the same society are in:

Illinois State Genealogical Society Ancestor Charts of Members. 7 vols. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Genealogical Society, 1988–1992. (FHL book 977.3 D2i; computer number 559708.)

Pioneers Certificate Applications

The Illinois State Genealogical Society also compiled the following:

Applications for Illinois Prairie Pioneer Certificates. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1987–89. (On 27 FHL microfilms beginning with 1513611, item 2; computer number 84897.) This collection contains two series of applications alphabetized by the surname of the pioneer ancestor. “Pioneers” are defined as those who arrived in Illinois before 1880. It includes lineage charts tracing the applicant’s pedigree to pioneer ancestors and shows supporting documents such as marriage and death certificates, obituaries, and census abstracts.

Applications for Illinois Prairie Pioneer Certificates: Certificates Issued on Previously Approved Pioneers. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1987. (FHL films 1514164 and 1514155–161; computer number 84898.)

Centennial Farms

A "centennial farm" is one owned for 100 years or more by lineal descendants of the same family. Histories of families who owned centennial farms in Illinois can be found in:

Illinois Centennial Farm Heritage Association. *The History of Illinois Centennial Farms*. Dallas, Tex: Curtis Media, 1986. (FHL book 977.3 D2h; computer number 714938.) This book gives a short history of farming in Illinois and contains family histories and property descriptions of the centennial farms.

For genealogy sources for the United States, see the "Genealogy" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

Other genealogical records of Illinois can be found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - GENEALOGY
ILLINOIS - SOCIETIES - GENEALOGY
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
GENEALOGY

HISTORY

Effective family history research requires some understanding of the historical events that affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends can help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns.

State, county, and local histories often contain biographical sketches of local citizens, including important genealogical information. This may be one of the best sources of information for some families.

The following are important events in the history of Illinois that affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

1699 French priests founded a mission at Cahokia, the oldest permanent white settlement in Illinois, in what is now St. Clair County. Another early settlement

was Kaskaskia, now in Randolph County, founded by the French in 1703.

1763 France ceded the Illinois country to Great Britain after the French and Indian War.

1778 Illinois became a county of Virginia after Americans captured Kaskaskia, the British seat of government. Virginia relinquished its claim in 1784.

1787 Congress made Illinois part of the Northwest Territory. The Northwest Territory was divided in 1800 when the area that is now Illinois became a part of Indiana Territory.

1809 The Illinois Territory was formed when the Indiana Territory was divided.

1818 Illinois became a state after the Wisconsin region was transferred to the Michigan Territory.

1832 The last serious Indian threat to white settlement ended when Sauk and Fox warriors were driven from the state during the Black Hawk War.

1838–1856 Improvements in transportation hastened immigration to the northern counties. The National Road reached Vandalia, now in Fayette County, in 1838. The Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1848 and ran from Chicago to LaSalle on the Illinois River. The Illinois Central Railroad was completed in 1856, linking southern Illinois to Chicago.

1839–1846 Latter-day Saints (Mormons) from Missouri and Ohio built the city of Nauvoo before their westward exodus. See the *Tracing LDS Families Research Outline* (34080) for records of Latter-day Saints in Illinois.

1861–65 About 250,000 Illinois men served in the Union armed forces during the Civil War.

1871 Fire destroyed much of Chicago and its public records.

The Family History Library™ has a sizeable history collection for the state of Illinois consisting of two main types of records. First there are published histories of the state, its counties, and towns. They often contain maps, information on religious and civic organizations, and biographies of individuals and families who have lived in the area.

Second, there are copies of documents on microfilm and in published form that broaden a genealogist's understanding of the times and places their ancestors lived in. Many of the documents include names of individuals involved in the event being documented.

State Histories

The Family History Library has acquired many volumes of:

Bateman, Newton, et. al. *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois* . . . Chicago: Munsell Pub., 1906-. Each volume focuses on a different county and contains historical and biographical information on that county. The Illinois State Archives has a biographical index to most of the Bateman volumes but may not have all volumes. Each volume of the collection is cataloged separately and can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - HISTORY
ILLINOIS - HISTORY

Useful sources for studying the history of Illinois are:

Howard, Robert P. *Illinois: A History of the Prairie State*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1972. (FHL book 977.3 H2hr; computer number 263730.)

Davidson, Alexander, and Bernard Stuvé. *A Complete History of Illinois from 1673 to 1884: Embracing the Physical Features of the County [Country], Its Early Explorations, Aboriginal Inhabitants*. Springfield, Ill.: H.W. Rokker, 1884. (FHL book 977.3 H2d; film 889341; fiche 6051133 [set of 13]; computer number 266002.)

The Centennial History of Illinois. 6 vols. Springfield: Illinois Centennial Commission, 1917-1920. (FHL books 977.3 B4ic vols. 0 [zero], 3, 4; film 1697272, item 3 [vol. 5]; computer numbers 272722, 272719, 272720, and

272721.) Reprint, *The Sesquicentennial History of Illinois*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1987. (FHL book 977.3 B4ic 1987 vols. 1 and 2; computer numbers 24731 and 451918.) Each volume has a different author and title representing a period of the state's history. The *Sesquicentennial History* is an exact reprint of the original series. Some of the *Centennial* books are being microfilmed. To find the film numbers in the Family History Library Catalog, use the Author/Title Search under "*The Centennial History of Illinois*."

Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library. (FHL book 977.3 B4i; computer numbers vary.) Each publication in this series of at least 38 issues is published under a different title. Some issues have been bound together and some have been microfilmed. This collection includes land records and correspondence from the 1700s, court records, census returns, laws that were enacted, records of the Black Hawk War, election returns, and diaries. It includes French and English versions of the early records from the Kaskaskia settlement. The best way to locate the series or any of its parts in the Family History Library Catalog is to search for the series name, *Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library*, using the Author/Title Search. The Family History Library does not have all the volumes of this series.

Illinois. Secretary of State. *Blue Book of the State of Illinois*. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois Secretary of State, 1903-. (FHL book 977.3 N2ib; computer number 265999.) The *Blue Book* includes many items relative to state government and contemporary history, including a roster of state officials and employees. The Family History Library has volumes for 1921-24, 1951-52, 1955-58, 1969-1970, 1985-86.

Federal Papers Regarding Illinois

An important source with historical information about persons involved in the settlement of Illinois from 1800 to 1818 is:

United States. Department of State. *The Territorial Papers of the United States*. 26 vols. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0721. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1934-1962. (FHL book 973 N2udt; on 15 FHL films beginning with 1421059; computer number 210409.) Volumes 2 and 3 pertain to *The*

Territory Northwest of the River Ohio, 1787–1803, which included present-day Illinois. Volume 7 contains *The Territory of Indiana, 1800–1810*, and volumes 16 and 17 contain *The Territory of Illinois, 1809–1818*. Each volume has an every-name index and contains thousands of names of residents in the area that is now Illinois. The volumes contain lists of residents, taxpayers, and petitioners, and information about persons associated with forts, land offices, Indian interpreters, express riders, and post offices. The original records are in the National Archives.

The Draper Manuscript Collection

The Draper Manuscript Collection is a significant regional source that includes records of Illinois.

Draper, Lyman Copeland. *Draper Manuscript Collection*. Chicago: University of Chicago Library, 197–?. (On 147 FHL films beginning with 889098; computer number 254597.) The collection consists of nearly 500 volumes of manuscripts, papers, and books collected by Lyman Copeland Draper about the history of the trans-Allegheny West, a region including the western areas of the Carolinas and Virginia, all the Ohio River Valley, and part of the upper Mississippi Valley from the 1740s to 1830. The collection is divided into 50 series. Some series are titled by geographic area, some by the names of prominent frontier leaders, and some by topic. The bulk of the collection consists of notes from interviews, questionnaires, and letters gathered during Draper's extensive travels and research to learn about frontier history. Personal papers are much more rare than government or military records. The collection includes many items of a genealogical or biographical nature. For an inventory and partial indexes, see:

Harper, Josephine L. *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts*. Madison, Wis.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1983. (FHL book 977.583/M1 A3h; computer number 37812.) This guide gives series and volume descriptions for some of the Draper manuscripts. There are several indexes at the end of the book, including a name and subject index, an additional personal data index, and a list of references to Illinois.

Wolfe, Barbara Schull. *Index to Lyman C. Draper Manuscripts*. Logansport, Ind.: B.S. Wolfe, 197–?. (FHL book 977.583/M1 A3w; computer number 525504.) The name index gives the series and volume numbers, but is not complete.

Kaskaskia and Cahokia Records

Kaskaskia and Cahokia were important early Indian and French settlements. Their records include:

Kaskaskia Manuscripts, 1714–1816. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975. (FHL films 956798–814; computer number 315278.) These records were filmed at the Randolph County Clerk and Recorder's office in 1975. These manuscripts were created by the early French Kaskaskia settlement in Randolph County. Records include tax lists, debts, wills, adoptions, land records, marriages, and selling of slaves. Most of this collection is in French and is not indexed. Some records have been translated into English and are indexed. A partial index to the historical records in this collection is:

Alvord, Clarence Walworth, ed. *Kaskaskia Records, 1778–1790*. Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library, vol. 5. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Historical Library, 1909. (FHL book 977.3 B4i v. 5; film 978493; computer number 272365.) The preface states that a number of papers have been omitted from this work because "they are of a private character and add very little to knowledge of the history of the period."

The *Raymond H. Hammes Collection* maintained at the Illinois State Archives is an excellent collection of early land and other historical records from Kaskaskia in Randolph County and settlements along the Mississippi River, including the Cahokia settlement in St. Clair County, which at the time covered a large portion of present-day Illinois. Most of the Hammes collection has been microfilmed and can be found as 10 entries in the Family History Library Catalog in an Author/Title Search under the title *Raymond H. Hammes Collection*. It is indexed in *Consolidated Index for the Raymond H. Hammes Collection* cited in the "Land and Property" section of this outline.

Local History Bibliographies

A bibliography of older local histories for Illinois is included in:

Wolf, Joseph C. *A Reference Guide for Genealogical and Historical Research in Illinois*. Detroit: Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, 1963. (FHL book 977.3 A3w; computer number 254926.) A similar but less complete list is included in Pat and Ray Gooldy's *Manual for Genealogical Research*, cited in the "For Further Reading" section of this outline. A few recent titles not in Wolf's list are in the Gooldy list.

A more recent bibliography of historical sources for Illinois is:

Whitney, Ellen, comp. *Illinois History: an Annotated Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1995. (FHL book 977.3 H23w; computer number 748431.)

County and Local Histories

County and local histories often contain biographical and historical information about residents and their families. They may provide the occupation, previous residences, birth date, birthplace (city, county, and state or country), names of parents, maiden name of mother, maiden name of spouse, and names of children and their spouses.

Information about a family may be found in a history under the married name of a daughter or sister. Relatives or clues are often found by studying the pages that have biographies of residents or that tell the history of the town or township where an ancestor lived.

See the "Biography" section of this outline for information about the card indexes to biographies from county histories at the Illinois State Archives and the Illinois State Historical Library as well as other biographical collections. See also the "Biography" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for nationwide collections.

Historics are found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - HISTORY

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - HISTORY

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - HISTORY

For other record types that also provide historical background, see the "Church Records," "Emigration and Immigration," "Military Records," "Minorities," and "Native Races" sections of this outline.

LAND AND PROPERTY

The availability of land attracted many immigrants to America and encouraged westward expansion. Land records are primarily used to learn where a person lived and when he or she lived there. They often reveal other family information as well, such as the name of a spouse, an heir, other relatives, or neighbors. You may learn a person's previous residences, his occupation, if he had served in the military, if he was a naturalized citizen, and other clues for further research.

Early Settlers

Before 1787, settlers in what is now Illinois lived in an area once owned by France, Spain, or Great Britain. Without relocating, early settlers lived in the Northwest Territory in 1787, Indiana Territory in 1800, Illinois Territory in 1809, and finally the State of Illinois in 1818.

Because Illinois became part of the public domain in 1787, its lands were available from the federal government for sale or as a grant for military or other service. The "Land and Property" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) describes government land grants and major resources, many of which include Illinois.

A clear, comprehensive description of public domain lands and the value and use of deeds and other land records is:

Hone, E. Wade. *Land and Property Research in the United States*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1997. (FHL book 973 R27h; computer number 777085.)

At various times, early settlers and others made written claims to the government for lands. Those claims frequently included statements by relatives, heirs, neighbors, or friends and sometimes contained additional genealogical information. A

land office was opened at Kaskaskia in 1804 for settling claims and land disputes. Records of these and other claims are in:

United States. Congress. *American State Papers: Documents, Legislative and Executive of the Congress of the United States*. La Crosse, Wis.: Brookhaven Press, 1959. 38 vols. (On 29 FHL films, beginning with 1631827; computer number 277508.) Classes 8 and 9 of these records deal with public lands and claims for the years 1789 to 1837, and may name siblings or heirs of original claimants. Classes 8 and 9 have been republished in:

United States. Congress. *American State Papers, Class 8: Public Lands; Class 9: Claims: Documents, Legislative and Executive, of the Congress of the United States . . . 9 vols. 1832–1861*. Reprint, Greenville, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1994. (FHL book 973 R2ag 1994; computer number 617316.) A comprehensive index to Classes 8 and 9 of both of the above records is:

McMullin, Phillip W., ed. *Grassroots of America: A Computerized Index to the American State Papers: Land Grants and Claims 1789–1837 with Other Aids to Research (Government Document Serial Set Numbers 28 through 36)*. Salt Lake City: Gendex Corp, 1972. (FHL book 973 R2ag index; fiche 6051323 [set of 6]; computer number 271603.)

The *Raymond H. Hammes Collection* described in the “History” section of this outline is significant to early Illinois research in land records. An index to most of the land records in the collection is:

Hammes, Raymond H. (Henry). *Consolidated Index for the Raymond H. Hammes Collection at the Illinois State Genealogical Society, Land Records, 1678–1814*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (FHL film 1543598, item 1; computer number 548755.) While the title implies otherwise, this collection is at the Illinois State Archives.

To find more information on early landowners, see the *Territorial Papers of the United States* and selected sources for Kaskaskia and other early settlements described in the “History” section of this outline.

Government Land Transfers

Both federal and state officials kept records regarding land transfers from government to private ownership, and personal information in the federal records may not be identical to information in the state records.

As the United States acquired territory, unsettled land became public domain and was sold by the federal government. The first general land office to serve Illinois was at Kaskaskia, which opened for land sales to the general public in 1814.

An index to over 550,000 names of original land owners from sales records of the U.S. General Land Office, the Illinois Central Railroad, and Illinois officials was created in 1984. Originally called the *Public Domain Computer Conversion Project*, it indexes the documents classified as “Record Groups 491 and 952” in the *Descriptive Inventory of the Archives of the State of Illinois*, cited in the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline. A microfiche copy of the index is:

United States. General Land Office. *Public Domain Sales Land Tract Record Listing, 1814–1925 (Index)*. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Archives, 1984. (FHL fiche 6016848 [set of 144]; computer number 440929.) This index provides the name of the purchaser and record identification number; sale type (federal, military, Illinois Central RR, canal lands, or school lands); description of land by section, township, range, meridian, and county; number of acres; and date of purchase. The last two columns give the archives volume and page. All volumes are available at the Illinois State Archives. Volumes 661–716 are on microfilm in:

United States. General Land Office. *Federal Land Records, Tract Books of Illinois, 1826–1873*. Springfield, Ill.: Office of the Secretary of State, Record Management Division, 1966. (FHL films 899766–84; computer number 66288.) This includes 10 of the federal land offices (1826–1873) in Illinois. It provides name, date of purchase, residence at the time of purchase, and legal description of the land. The original records are at the Illinois State Archives.

The *Public Domain Land Sales (Index)* is available through the Internet address listed for the Illinois State Archives in the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline.

Sources documenting the original transfer of land from the federal government to individuals, such as original patents, copies of tract books, and township plats, are located at:

Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States Office
7450 Boston Blvd.
Springfield, VA 22153
Telephone: 703-440-1600
Fax: 703-440-1609

Microfilm copies of the tract books at the Bureau of Land Management are:

United States. Bureau of Land Management. *Tract Books*. Washington, D.C.: Records Improvement, Bureau of Land Management, 1957. (On 1,265 FHL films starting with 1445277; computer number 473821.) These land tract record books include all public land states and serve as a reference source for transactions involving public lands.

The BLM Eastern States Office has an ongoing project of preparing indexes and images of the documents in their possession for convenient access through the Internet or compact disc. Records of some states are now available, and Illinois is in process. When this index is available, it is advisable to use both the BLM index and the *Public Domain Sales (Index)* described above, since the indexes were created from different sets of documents.

If an ancestor who did receive public lands is not listed in the *Public Domain Sales (Index)*, use the following until the BLM index is available for Illinois:

United States. Bureau of Land Management. *Card Files*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Land Management, 19-?. (FHL films 1501522-681; computer number 547365.) Films 1501600-605 and 1501609-663 pertain to Illinois. Because these index cards are arranged by township and range, an approximate legal description is needed to access them. The cards give the land office name and certificate number needed to locate the land-entry case files.

The land-entry case files consist of the papers created during the process of transferring public lands to individuals. They are often rich in genealogical information and may include depositions, receipts, affidavits, proof of citizenship (by birth or naturalization), evidence of military service, and more. Files are available from the National Archives (Pennsylvania Avenue at 8th Street, Washington, D.C. 20408, Telephone 202-501-5415). Because of the way the files are arranged, the name of the land office and the case file number are required, and a completed NATF form 84 must accompany requests for the case files.

You may find the following publications helpful:

Shawneetown Land District Records 1814-1820. N.p., 1978. (FHL book 977.3 R2s; computer number 11162.) This was transcribed and indexed by Lowell M. Volkel. Shawneetown land district covered the present counties of Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Saline, White, Williamson, and parts of nearby counties.

War of 1812 Bounty Lands in Illinois. Thomson, Ill.: Heritage House, 1977. (FHL book 977.3 R2w; film 1035624 item 7; fiche 6051272; computer number 7616.) Indexed by Lowell M. Volkel, this was originally published as *House Document 262, 26th Congress, 1st Session, 1840*.

Individual Land Transfers

Once a parcel of land was transferred from the government to private ownership, it may have stayed in the family for generations or for only a few months. It may have been subdivided, sold and resold, with each transaction creating new records. These person-to-person transactions are an important resource to the genealogist. The potential for an ancestor to be recorded is high. These records may offer genealogical clues, such as the given name of the wife, a previous residence, names of children, or death information. Land records also offer clues to maiden names if a father deeded property to his daughter upon marriage. Witnesses and neighbors may also be in-laws or relatives. It is important to trace the purchase and sale (or the acquisition and disposition) of each parcel of land an ancestor owned.

The original records are filed in the county clerks' or recorders' offices or in IRAD depositories. Be aware that, as new counties were formed and boundaries changed, transactions were then recorded in the new county, while the parent county retained the records previously created. The Family History Library™ has microfilm copies of most of the county records and is continuing to microfilm deeds of other counties up to about 1900. Contact the county clerk or recorder for records that have not been microfilmed.

Land records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - LAND AND PROPERTY
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - LAND AND
PROPERTY

MAPS

Several types of maps are useful for genealogists. Some give the historical background of the area; others show migration routes such as roads, rivers, and railroads. Topographical maps show physical and manmade features, such as creeks, hills, trails, and roads used as persons came to Illinois. Sometimes maps also include cemeteries and churches. Plat and land ownership maps, as well as other types of maps, are described in the "Maps" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972). In the Family History Library Catalog™, atlases are listed in the Locality Search under "Maps."

A county-by-county list of land ownership maps is:

Conzen, Michael P., James R. Akerman, and David T. Thackery, comps. *Illinois County Land Ownership Map and Atlas Bibliography and Union List*. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois Cooperative Collection Management Coordinating Committee, Illinois Board of Higher Education, 1991. (FHL book 977.3 E73c; computer number 656615.)

The largest collections of Illinois maps are available at the Illinois State Library and the libraries of Southern Illinois University, University of Chicago, and University of Illinois-Urbana.

Statewide Atlases

Many of the maps at the Family History Library™ are in published atlases. For example, maps showing boundary changes in Illinois are found in:

Long, John H., ed. *Illinois, Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1997. (FHL book 977.3 E3L; computer number 626637.) This atlas was compiled by Gordon DenBoer as a project of the Newberry Library. Counties are in alphabetical order, each with a chronology of boundary changes and detailed maps for various years.

Also included are territorial and state outline maps that match the censuses for 1800, 1807, 1810, 1818, 1820, 1830, 1835, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1860 to 1900, and outline maps of the Old Northwest (or the Northwest Territory) from 1787.

Long, John H., ed. *Historical Atlas and Chronology of County Boundaries, 1788-1980*. Boston, Mass.: G.K. Hall, 1984. (FHL 973 E7hL; fiche 6051426-430 [set of 21]; computer number 304297.) Volume 2 contains Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio on fiche 6051427 [set of 6], with maps showing when and where each county changed boundaries.

Origin and Evolution of Illinois Counties. N.p.: State of Illinois, 1985. (FHL book 977.3 E7o; film 1321494, item 13; computer number 424971.) This work includes maps that span the history of Illinois. Previous editions were issued by secretaries of state under the title *Counties of Illinois; Their Origin and Evolution, with Twenty-three Maps Showing the Original and Present Boundary Lines of Each County*.

County Atlases

Various publishers have issued atlases covering individual counties in Illinois. Among these are:

Atlas of Logan County and the State of Illinois: to Which Is Added an Atlas of the United States, Maps of the Hemispheres. Chicago: Warner, Higgins, and Beers, 1873. (FHL film 934968, item 4; computer number 303071.)

Maps of Illinois Counties in 1876: Together with the Plat of Chicago and Other Cities and a Sampling of Illustrations. 1876. Reprint, Knightstown, Ind.: Mayhill Pub., 1972. (FHL book Folio 977.3 E7ma; film 908083, item 4; computer number 213208.)

County or township maps are often included in published histories of the area.

City Maps

The Family History Library has city ward maps of Chicago for the years 1851, 1862, 1864, 1872, 1884, 1888, and 1890 included in:

Ward Maps of United States Cities: Microfilm Reproduction of 232 Maps Described in Ward Maps of United States Cities. Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1975?. (FHL film 1377700; on 320 fiche beginning with 6016554; computer number 181937.) Chicago is on fiche 6016613–619.

A more recent map of Chicago is:

Chicago (Illinois). Bureau of Maps and Plats. *Atlas of City of Chicago.* Chicago: The Bureau, 1980–81. (FHL book Q area 977.311 E7c; computer number 207486.)

See also the “Gazetteers” section of this outline, and the “Gazetteers” and “Maps” sections of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for more resources regarding places in Illinois.

Maps of Illinois can be found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - MAPS

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - MAPS

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - MAPS

MILITARY RECORDS

Illinois soldiers or veterans who came to Illinois after their military service are mentioned in military records created or maintained by federal, state, or county officials. A comprehensive description of both federal and Illinois state military records is:

Neagles, James C. *U. S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources, Colonial America to the Present.* Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1994. (FHL book 973 M23nu; computer number 732893.) This book describes federal military records, then discusses each state individually. Pages 231–37 provide details of military records housed in various archives in Illinois, many of which are not microfilmed.

For each war listed below, additional federal sources are listed in the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118). It contains search strategies and information to guide you to the best records for your objective.

Records Covering More than One War

An indexed source covering the nineteenth century conflicts through the Spanish-American War is:

Illinois. Adjutant General's Office. *Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Illinois.* 9 vols. Springfield, Ill.: Phillips Bros, 1900–1902. (FHL films 1001124–82 (indexes) and 978487–90 (vols. 1–9); computer number 269327.) Volumes 1–8 contain the rosters of officers and enlisted men for the Civil War (1861–1866). Volume 9 contains a record of the services of Illinois soldiers in the Black Hawk War (1831–1832), the Mexican War (1846–1848), and the Spanish-American War (1898–1899). An appendix lists the services of the Illinois militia from 1810 to 1813. The index for each war lists each soldier's name, rank, regiment, and company. It also gives the volume and page where the entry appears in the report. The first eight volumes for the Civil War are also indexed in:

Delap, Fred. “Database of Illinois' Civil War Veterans.” In Illinois State Archives [database on-line]. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Archives, 27 April 1999– [cited 15 July 1999]. Available at www.sos.state.il.us/depts/archives/dacivil.html ; INTERNET. Index shows name, company, unit, and residence.

The Illinois State Archives has many original military records of various wars, such as muster rolls and other records of the Black Hawk War, the Mexican War, the Civil War, and the Spanish-American War. The archives maintain military databases at their Internet site, consisting of the Adjutant General's report mentioned above, for the

Civil War and Spanish-American War. Regimental histories for Illinois regiments in the Civil War are also in their collection.

The Civil War sparked interest in providing for disabled or elderly veterans of various wars. Records of national soldier homes, including the one in Danville, Illinois, are found in:

United States. Veterans Administration. *Registers of Veterans at National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866–1937*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (On 282 FHL films beginning with 1536167; computer number 508537.) The original records are at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. The records for the home at Danville, Illinois, are on 21 films (beginning with 1548684) that cover the years 1898 to 1934. Danville is indexed on films 1548682–3. Content varies, but the *Historical Registers* may list the soldier's name, date and place of enlistment, rank, military unit, length of service, date and place of discharge, place of birth, age, physical description, religion, occupation, previous residence, marital status, nearest relative, pension, soldier home admission and discharge dates, disability, death date, or cause of death.

Admission registers of the state soldiers' home at Quincy have been transcribed and indexed in:

Illinois Soldier's and Sailor's Home at Quincy. 2 vols. Thomson, Ill.: Heritage House, 1975; Owensboro, Ky.: McDowell Publications, 1980. (FHL book 977.3 M2i; vol. 1 is on fiche 6048333 [set of 2]; vol. 2 is on fiche 6048334 [set of 2]; computer number 114570.) Indexed. Volume 1 contains admissions of Mexican War and Civil War veterans, 1887 to 1898. Volume 2 includes admissions of Mexican War, Civil War, and Spanish-American War veterans 1898 to 1908. The more than 8,000 entries may include name; age; company and regiment; state or country of birth; rank; hometown and county; occupation; whether married, widower, or single; and date of admission. The original case files of the Quincy Home veterans are available at the Illinois State Archives.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (833 South Spring Street, Springfield, IL 62794; telephone 217-782-6641) has files of veterans from the American Revolution through the most recent wars

who are buried in the state. A copy of the file up to the Spanish-American War is:

Soldiers Burial Places in State of Illinois for Wars, 1774–1898. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975. (FHL film 1001183–211; computer number 71011.) The originals are at the Department of Veterans Affairs (formerly known as the Illinois Veterans Commission) in Springfield. The index cards give name, unit, war, next of kin, and location of grave.

Names from five national cemeteries in Illinois are in:

Illinois. Department of Veterans Affairs. *Veterans National Cemetery Records, Illinois*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1981. (FHL films 1308571–72; computer number 94516.) Original records are at the Illinois State Department of Veterans Affairs in Springfield. This source includes national cemeteries at Rock Island, Mound City, Alton, Graceland and Danville, Illinois.

Revolutionary War (1775–1783)

The Revolutionary War was fought long before Illinois became a territory in 1809. Many veterans, however, came to Illinois later and may be listed in:

Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in Illinois: A Bicentennial Project of the Illinois State Genealogical Society. Springfield, Ill.: The Society, 1976. (FHL book 977.3 M2s; computer number 40870.) The soldier's birth date, death date, place of burial, spouse, and military service information are given for many entries.

An earlier version has been microfilmed:

Walker, Harriet J., comp. *Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in Illinois: From the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, April, 1912–January, 1917 Inclusive and April, 1926–January 1927*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973. (FHL film 908831, item 3; computer number 239532.)

Many patriots who came to Illinois are included in federal or national sources cited in the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118).

War of 1812 (1812–1815)

The Family History Library™ has indexes to the federal service and pension files for the War of 1812. See the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) for details and for sources not mentioned below.

An index for War of 1812 bounty land warrants for land located in Illinois is:

United States. General Land Office. *Federal Land Records: Transcripts of the Locations of Military Warrants on Which Patents Have [Been] Issued Under the Acts of Congress Passed On and Since the Sixth of May, 1812 for Illinois; 1817–1819*. Springfield, Ill.: Office of the Secretary of State, Record Management Division, 1966, 1968. (FHL films 882927–29 [indexes] 899785, items 1–3 [transcription of military warrants vols. 807–8, 1817 to 1819]; computer number 66275.) The warrant numbers given in the index refer to:

United States. Veterans Administration. *War of 1812, Military Bounty Land Warrants, 1815–1858*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0848. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1971. (FHL films 983163–77; computer number 174912.) In order by warrant number, the warrants were issued for land in Arkansas, Illinois, and Missouri. Film 983163 includes an index to patentees under the Act of 1842.

War of 1812 Bounty Lands in Illinois. 1840. Reprint, Thomson, Ill.: Heritage House, 1977; originally published, as *House Document 262, 26th Congress, 1st Session, 1840*. (FHL book 977.3 R2w; film 1035624, item 7; fiche 6051272; computer number 7616.)

Civil War (1861–1865)

Service Records. At the Family History Library you may use indexes to federal service and pension records of Union Army soldiers. The pension indexes are cited in the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118). The index to the service records is:

United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations From the State of Illinois*. National Archives Microfilm

Publications, M0539. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1964. (FHL films 881621–721; computer number 324400.) The original federal service records and pensions are available only at the National Archives.

See also volumes 1–8 of the *Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Illinois*, which is described earlier in this section under the subheading entitled “Records Covering More than One War.”

Identifying Military Units. Relatives and neighbors may have been in different military units even though they enlisted from the same county. A source that tells which companies were raised from each county is:

Illinois Military Units in the Civil War. Springfield, Ill.: Civil War Centennial Commission of Illinois, 1962. (FHL book 977.3 M2im; fiche 6334558; computer number 719485.) The first section is arranged by county. The rest of the book is arranged by the name of the military unit, naming the counties where each company was raised.

Illinois men who served in the Navy during the war are identified in:

Roster of Men From Illinois Who Served in the United States Navy During the War of the Rebellion, 1861–1866. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1974, 1975. (FHL film 1001182, item 2 [index], and 978491, item 1 [roster of men]; computer number 382348.)

Muster Rolls, Militia Lists and Military Censuses. The Illinois State Archives has a considerable collection of original muster rolls, militia lists, and military censuses for the Civil War (Record Series 301.29). Militia lists were of two types: volunteer militias and lists of males subject to military service. Volunteer lists include the each member's name, residence, age, birthplace, occupation, and date and term of enlistment in the militia. During the war, entire units of volunteer militias were called into service, although some members enlisted individually.

Militia lists of men between the ages of 18 and 45 who were subject to military service were created by Illinois county assessors from 1861 through 1863 as a form of draft registration. These lists

usually contain only the names and not their ages. Many of those listed may not have actually served.

Militia lists of both types are in:

Illinois. Assessors. *Militia Rolls, 1862–1863*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977. (FHL films 1012406–24; computer number 190551.) These are arranged by county and town and list the names of men in rough alphabetical order.

The military census of 1862 taken by the federal government is also at the Illinois State Archives and lists men subject to military service. It gives each person's name, age, birthplace, and occupation, and remarks about military assignments or exemptions. This collection often includes lists of volunteers and enlistment certificates.

Regimental Histories. The Illinois State Historical Library has a sizeable collection of regimental histories. Two bibliographies published in 1994 are:

Tubbs, William B., comp. "A Bibliography of Illinois Civil War Regimental Sources in the Illinois State Historical Library. Part I, Published and Printed Sources." *Illinois Historical Journal*. (Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Historical Society) vol. 87, no. 3 (Spring 1994): 185–232. (FHL book 977.3 B2i; computer number 55004.) This is arranged by the name of the military unit and cites unit histories, reunion literature, and other published materials.

"Part II, Manuscripts." Vol. 87, no. 4 (Winter 1994): 277–324. Manuscripts cited include such items as letters, diaries, personal papers of regimental officers and official correspondence.

Officer Biographies. Biographical data on Union officers from Illinois are in:

Wilson, James Grant. *Biographical Sketches of Illinois Officers Engaged in the War Against the Rebellion of 1861*. Chicago: J. Barnett, 1862. (FHL book 977.3 D3w; fiche 6049393 [set of 5]; computer number 265524.)

Confederate prisoners were held in Illinois at Camp Douglas, Camp Butler, Rock Island, and Alton. Lists of both Union and Confederate soldiers buried at various camps are at the Illinois

State Archives, Record Group 301.61. Some published records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, MADISON, ALTON - MILITARY RECORDS
ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND, ROCK ISLAND - MILITARY RECORDS

Veterans Organizations. By 1890, about 40 percent of the Civil War veterans were members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). The descriptive books of each GAR post usually indicate the member's name, age, rank, birthplace, residence, occupation, and enlistment and discharge information. A manuscript of members of GAR posts for the Department of Illinois, 1880 to 1930, and of other veterans organizations are at the Illinois State Historical Library. See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for the address. Scattered records may be found in various libraries and archives throughout Illinois. Many GAR posts are identified in:

Hutchison, Florence. *800 Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Illinois*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1978. (FHL film 1036109, item 6; computer number 305536.) This is a microfilm of an original typescript (10 leaves) written in 1974. This tells where each post was located.

Spanish-American War (1898–1899)

See sources listed under the subheading "Records Covering More than One War" at the end of this section.

World War I (1917–1918)

World War I draft registration cards for men ages 18–45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For Illinois' cards, see:

United States. Selective Service System. *Illinois, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987–88. (On 288 FHL films beginning with 1452428; computer number 756742.)

To find an person's draft card, it helps to know his name and residence at the time of registration, since the cards are arranged alphabetically by county, within the county by draft board, and then alphabetically by surname. Counties may have had more than one draft board.

Large cities like Chicago, however, had several draft boards. Find a person's street address in a city directory, then find the draft board closest to that address. Draft board addresses for Chicago can be found in:

Second Report of the Provost Marshall General to the Secretary of War on the Operations of the Selective Service System to December 20, 1918. Selective Service Addresses for Major Cities. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1919. (FHL book 973 M2ww; fiche 6039066; computer number 799547.)

A street map of Chicago for this time is on:

United States. Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1498803; computer number 702779.) These maps are helpful in determining which draft boards were closest to where a person lived. Maps of some cities in this collection show the actual boundaries of the draft boards. For Chicago, however, it is necessary to pinpoint the ancestor's street address on the map, then locate the address of each draft board until the closest ones are identified.

Polish volunteers all over the United States were recruited for the Polish Army in France, and many from Illinois are listed in *United States (with Some from Ontario, Canada) Recruits for the Polish Army in France, 1917-1919*, cited in the "Minorities" section of this outline.

A pictorial history of soldiers with brief sketches and genealogical information is:

Fighting Men of Illinois: An Illustrated Historical Biography. Chicago: Publishers Subscription, 1918. (FHL film 934978, item 2; computer number 303062.)

Additional Military Records

There are other military records that are not available on microfilm at the Family History Library. Many original records are at the Illinois State Archives or one of the universities in the Illinois Regional Archives Depository System (IRAD). The Illinois State Historical Library also has many published military histories and records. See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for addresses.

Soldiers' discharge records, which contain service and discharge information, are often filed by soldiers upon completion of their service. They may be found at individual county courthouses or at regional IRAD depositories.

More military information and sources can be found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - MILITARY HISTORY
ILLINOIS - MILITARY RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - MILITARY
RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - MILITARY
RECORDS

MINORITIES

Records and histories of minorities and ethnic groups may provide clues to immigrant origins, migration information and previous residences. See the "Minorities" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for further sources on ethnic, racial, and religious groups.

You can find information on minority groups in most of the same records as other groups. Start your research in the same resources you would search for non-minority groups. The records listed in this section provide information about specific groups in Illinois. Some resources available at the Family History Library™ include:

Otto, Ronald L. ed. *Illinois German-American Genealogical Sources.* 2 vols. Quincy, Ill.: Illinois Chapter, Palatines to America, 1990-92. (FHL Book 977.3 D27i; computer number 611725.)

Death Notices From Lithuanian Newspapers, 1900–1979. Chicago, Ill.: Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture; Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1979. (FHL film 1206173–179, computer number 54878.) This is a microfilm of a card file of obituaries from Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Toronto, and several states. Other countries are also included. It is not available at Family History Centers™.

During World War I, soldiers for the Polish Army in France, commonly called Haller's Army, were recruited among Poles living in the U.S. Two forms that contain genealogical information were filled out by the recruits. Form A contains the volunteer's name, address, and marital status; the number of children he had; how his family would be supported if he was accepted into service; whether or not he was a U.S. citizen; his age, physical description, and signature; the recruiting station; and the date. Form C contains additional information, such as the volunteer's date and place of birth; the address of his closest relative in America and in Poland; his previous military service; and remarks. All volumes of the collection are available through:

PGS of America
ATTN: Haller's Army Request
984 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622

A name index is on the Internet at:

"Haller's Army Index." In Polish Genealogical Society of America. Chicago: PGSA, 1998 [cited 17 July 1999]. Available at www.pgsa.org/haller.htm; INTERNET. You can search by surname and first name. The index shows the volunteer's surname and given name, the town and state where he volunteered, his form (A or C described above, or L, that is, loose papers), and page number.

A microfilm copy of Form A records only is:

United States (with Some from Ontario, Canada) Recruits for the Polish Army in France, 1917–1919: States Represented most Frequently are New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Connecticut, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Delaware, Nebraska & Kansas

(for Complete Breakdown See Film Inventory). Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1995. (On 11 FHL films beginning with 1993525, items 1–4; computer number 771935.) The forms are in Polish, but at the beginning of each film is a blank form printed in English. The records are not organized by locality, and Illinois recruits are represented on almost every film. There is, however, an alphabetical list of volunteers for each item.

A brief history of ethnic groups and a bibliography of literature on German, French, British, Irish, Scandinavian, and Swiss immigrants can also be found in Mark Wyman's *Immigration History and Ethnicity in Illinois*, mentioned in the "Emigration and Immigration" section of this outline.

Ethnic organizations and societies may suggest additional avenues of research for specific ethnic groups. Addresses and information for ethnic societies can be found in:

Wynar, Lubomyr Roman. *Encyclopedic Directory of Ethnic Organizations in the United States.* Littleton, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 1975. (FHL book 305.8 W99e; computer number 148815.)

Some African Americans may be listed in the comprehensive index of servitude and emancipation records at the Illinois State Archives. These records are also available in IRAD depositories. See also the following sources:

Tregillis, Helen Cox, comp. *River Roads to Freedom: Fugitive Slave Notices and Sheriff Notices Found in Illinois Sources.* Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1988. (FHL book 977.3 H6t; computer number 485069.) The information was obtained from newspaper microfilm available at the Illinois State Historical Library.

Hodges, Carl G., and Helene H. Levene, comps. *Illinois Negro Historymakers.* Chicago: Illinois Emancipation Centennial Commission, 1964. (FHL book 977.3 A1 no. 155; film 982206, item 5; computer number 263325.)

Some sources for early settlers of Kaskaskia and other French areas of Illinois are described in the "History" section of this outline.

See also the "Minorities" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for additional resources.

Other records and histories of ethnic, racial, and religious groups in Illinois can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - MINORITIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
MINORITIES

Additional resources may also be found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Subject Search (on microfiche only) under:

AFRO-AMERICANS - ILLINOIS
JEWS - ILLINOIS

NATIVE RACES

The most prominent Indian tribes in Illinois were the Illinois, Miami, Winnebago, Fox and Sacs (Sauk), Kickapoo, and Pottawatomie tribes. The Illinois Indians were composed of five subdivisions including Kaskaskias, Cahokias, Tamaroas, Peorias, and Metchigamis. Most of these tribes were eliminated from Illinois by about the mid-nineteenth century either through warfare or resettlement to other territories by the federal government.

See the "Native Races" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for suggestions on how to research American Indian ancestry. If searching for American Indians in Illinois, you may want to see:

Beckwith, Hiram Williams. *The Illinois and Indiana Indians*. 1884. Reprint, New York: Arno Press, 1975. (FHL book 970.1 B389j; and fiche 6087719; computer number 212629.) This book gives histories of the tribes in Illinois.

Tregillis, Helen Cox. *The Indians of Illinois: A History and Genealogy*. [Decorah, Iowa: Anundsen Publishing], 1983. (FHL book 970.1 T716i; fiche 6088745; computer number 310705.) In addition to histories of the tribes, this source contains biographies of prominent Illinois Indians and a bibliography of sources.

Additional sources on specific tribes can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Subject Search (on the microfiche catalog only) under the name of the tribe, for example:

FOX INDIANS
MIAMI INDIANS
SAUK INDIANS

and under the subject INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - ILLINOIS.

Other sources can be found in the Family History Library Catalog by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - NATIVE RACES

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Naturalization records have been filed in the U.S. district and circuit courts and in local courts in Illinois counties. Each court had its own style of record keeping before 1906.

Various types of records were created during the naturalization process, including declarations of intention, petitions for naturalization, oaths of allegiance, and certificates of naturalization and citizenship. Each record can give details about a person, such as age, residence, country or city of origin, ethnic background, the date and port of arrival, the name of the ship, names of spouse and children with their birth dates and places, or current address.

Records for earlier years usually contain less information than those after 1906, when the federal court system for naturalization was revised and details such as birth date and place, physical description, and marital status may be given. See the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for a more complete discussion of the naturalization process and the records created.

Guide Book

For a comprehensive list of Illinois naturalization records, see:

Schaefer, Christina K. *Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States*. Baltimore, Md.: Gencalogical Publishing, 1997. (FHL book 973 P4s; computer number 798891.) Pages 89-104

cover Illinois. For each county, this book lists the courts where naturalization took place, the years the records cover, where the original records are housed, and the first film numbers of the Family History Library™, where applicable. The introduction discusses the naturalization process, the types of records created, and the usual genealogical content of each record.

Card Index, 1840–1950

The National Archives—Great Lakes Region in Chicago has a card index of 1,000,000 names of people recorded in many courts of the old Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) District 9, which comprised the northern third of Illinois, northwestern Indiana, southern and eastern Wisconsin, and eastern Iowa. This record indexes both civil and military petitions for the U.S. District and circuit courts for the Northern District, Eastern Division of Illinois, the circuit, county, criminal and superior courts of Cook County, Illinois, and the county and municipal courts. A microfilm copy of this index is:

United States. District Court (Illinois: Northern District). *Soundex Index to Naturalization Petitions for U.S. District & Circuit Court, Northern District of Illinois and Immigration and Naturalization Service District 9, 1840–1950*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (On 183 FHL films beginning with 1432001; computer number 161074.)

For a description of the judicial districts in Illinois, the counties they included, and the location of the court seat, see pages 384–85 of Frederick B. Crossley's *Courts and Lawyers* mentioned in the "Court Records" section of this outline.

Availability

Records of the district and circuit courts in the Northern District were kept concurrently until the U.S. Circuit Court was abolished in 1911. Both courts should be checked for naturalization records.

The Family History Library has records of the U.S. Circuit Court for the Northern and Southern Districts, and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern, Northern, and Southern Districts.

If a person lived in or near Chicago or other cities where the U.S. courts convened, naturalization records may be found in the U.S. district or circuit courts. For the rural areas of Illinois, naturalizations were more likely recorded by the circuit court clerk in each county. IRAD depositories have naturalization records for circuit, county, and municipal courts from many counties. The Family History Library also has microfilmed copies of the records from many Illinois counties.

Naturalization records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - NATURALIZATION AND
CITIZENSHIP
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - NATURALIZATION
AND CITIZENSHIP

NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers publish marriage, divorce, death, and funeral notices, and obituaries. Notices include names, dates, and places. Marriage and death notices may contain maiden names and names of parents and other living relatives.

Newspapers also publish articles of local interest that often cover religious and social events in the community and include the names of people involved. Some newspapers serve several communities and devote columns to the everyday happenings in the area. Newspapers also include legal notices, estate sales, and advertising for local businesses.

The larger cities in Illinois began publishing newspapers in the 1830s through 1850s.

Inventory on the Internet

Over 6,500 Illinois newspapers are cataloged in:

"Illinois Newspaper Project." In University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign [database on-line]. Urbana, Ill.: UIUC, 28 June 1999– [cited 15 July 1999]. Available on the Internet at:

www.library.uiuc.edu/techserv/inp/database/search_form.asp

This web site briefly lists the newspaper's title, town, life span, and repositories researchers can

contact to obtain further details and to order microfilm copies through interlibrary loan.

Published Inventories

The best collection of Illinois newspapers is held by the Illinois State Historical Library. Microfilmed newspapers are available through interlibrary loan, or the Newspaper/Microfilm Department can do searches for a fee. For inventories of newspaper collections, see:

Newspapers in the Illinois State Historical Library. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 1998. (FHL book 977.3 J53n; no computer number assigned.) Most libraries in Illinois receive copies of this inventory; it is not available to individuals. Earlier inventories on microfilm are:

Newspapers in the Illinois State Historical Library. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Library, 1964 and 1970. (FHL fiche 6125938–39; computer number 345617.)

Illinois Libraries. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Library, 1955–. (FHL book 977.356/S1 A35i; selected volumes on 4 fiche beginning with 6125940 [set of 7]; computer number 10102.) The 1988 volume (fiche 6125942 [set of 2]) incorporates the previous years.

Scott, Franklin William. *Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois, 1814–1879.* Springfield, Ill.: Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, 1910. (FHL book 977.3 B4i, vol. 6; film 1697636, item 2; computer number 272366.)

Birth, Marriage, and Death Notices in Newspapers

Death, marriage, and birth announcements in Chicago newspapers from 1833 to 1848 have been published in:

Vital Records From Chicago Newspapers. Chicago: Chicago Genealogical Society, 1971–. (FHL book 977.311 V2c; FHL film 844952, item 5; computer number 269325.)

Chicago marriages from 1833 to 1871 and deaths from 1856 to 1889 have been indexed in:

Chicago Marriage and Death Indexes. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1983. (FHL film 1321939; computer number 249115.) These typescript indexes to marriage and death records from Chicago newspapers are also known as the *Sam Fink Collection*.

Availability

The Family History Library™ has very few Illinois newspapers. You will find some information from newspapers in genealogical periodicals and other published transcripts. Rock Island County newspapers, for instance, have been abstracted and published in 38 volumes for the years 1850 to 1906:

Pease, Janet K. *Genealogical Abstracts From Rock Island County, Illinois, Newspapers.* 38 vols. [Arvada, Colo.: Janet K. Pease]; Rock Island, Ill.: Blackhawk Genealogical Society, 1973–1995. (FHL book 977.3393 B38p; on 26 FHL films starting with 928133, items 1–5; computer number 51788.) Many volumes are on film only.

See the “Newspapers” and “Obituaries” sections of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for help in locating other newspapers published in Illinois.

Many periodicals publish information from newspapers. These are referenced in the “Places” section of the *Periodical Source Index* (PERSI) described in the “Periodicals” section of this outline. See also the “Obituaries” section of this outline for help in finding obituaries.

You can find more resources for local Illinois newspapers in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - NEWSPAPERS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], NEWSPAPERS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
NEWSPAPERS

OBITUARIES

Obituaries have been published in Illinois since the mid-nineteenth century. Obituaries may provide information such as the age of the deceased, birth date and place, names of living relatives and their residences, maiden name, occupation, death date,

cause of death, and place of burial. Deceased family members are frequently mentioned. Obituaries may also mention previous places of residence, immigration information, religion, and any social organizations or activities in which the deceased was involved.

The "Obituaries" and "Newspapers" sections of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) list sources for finding obituaries and the newspapers that published them.

For Illinois, some obituaries have been published and indexed in genealogical periodicals that are available in the Family History Library™. These are referenced in the "Places" section of the *Periodical Source Index* (PERSI) which is described in the "Periodicals" section of this outline. See the "Newspapers" section of this outline for additional sources and how to locate newspapers.

Obituary files may also be kept in local public libraries and by newspaper publishers.

Obituaries and indexes from a few individual newspapers can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - OBITUARIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - OBITUARIES
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
OBITUARIES

OCCUPATIONS

Large companies sometimes preserved records about their employees. These records usually contain hiring and termination details and may include biographical data about the employees and possibly their families. If a company where your ancestor worked is still in business, it may allow limited access to its historical employee records.

Few employee records have been made public. Examples that are available for Illinois include:

Pullman Car Works (Pullman, Illinois). *Employee Records, ca. 1900–1949*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1993–94. (On 68 FHL films beginning with 1908114; computer number 740366.) (Not available at Family History Centers™.) These records include employment index cards, which contain hiring

and termination dates, and service forms, which contain dates and places of birth as well as information on previous employment, for about 200,000 employees who worked in the Pullman car plant.

Biographical sketches of lawyers in Illinois about 1916 can be found in Crossley's *Courts and Lawyers*, cited in the "Court Records" section of this outline.

The Illinois State Archives and IRAD depositories have registers of physicians, accoucheurs, midwives, veterinarians, dentists, optometrists, nurses, surgeons, and other professions. They also have the Chicago Civil Service Commission records of policemen, firemen, and tradesmen.

Farming is one of the major occupations in Illinois. Farmers directories were published occasionally. Local farmers associations may have kept membership records with biographical information. Many farms that have been owned by the same family for 100 years or longer are mentioned in *The History of Centennial Farms*, cited in the "Genealogy" section of this outline.

For state employees from 1921 to 1924 and later, see the *Blue Book of the State of Illinois* cited in the "History" section of this outline.

Occupation records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - OCCUPATIONS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - OCCUPATIONS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -
OCCUPATIONS

PERIODICALS

Most family history periodicals publish transcriptions of local sources used in genealogical research. Information published in periodicals may include family histories, genealogies, historical background, maps, information about local records and archives, queries, census indexes, transcripts of family Bibles, church records, court records, cemetery records, land records, military records, obituaries, and wills. Often published by genealogical or historical societies, they typically focus on the records of a particular county, while a few may specialize in records of a particular ethnic

group or religion. Among the periodicals at the Family History Library™ are:

Branching Out From St. Clair County. 1973–.

Published by the Marissa Historical and Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 47, Marissa, IL 62257-0047. (FHL book 977.389 D25b; fiche 6101495–13 [vols. 1–19 no. 3]; film 1927530, items 20–35—1927532, items 1–17 [vols. 1–17 no. 1]; computer number 105896.) This periodical focuses on St. Clair County, which was created in 1790, the first county formed in the Northwest Territory.

Chicago Genealogist. 1968–. Published by the Chicago Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1160, Chicago, IL 60690. (FHL book 977.311 D25ch; films 1927805–8 [vols. 1–22 no. 2]; computer number 223567.) This contains member and ancestor lists and abstracts of cemetery, Bible, census, court, and other records of the Chicago area.

The Circuit Rider. 1973–. Published by the Sangamon County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1829, Springfield, IL 62705. (FHL book 977.356 B2c; films 1976338–40 [vols. 5 no. 5–vol. 21]; computer number 223736.) This covers Springfield and Sangamon County.

The Illiana Genealogist: Quarterly Publication of the Illiana Genealogical and Historical Society. 1965–. P.O. Box 207, Danville, IL 61834. (FHL book 977.3 B2iL; computer number 230995.) This includes transcriptions of records for the border area of Illinois and Indiana. There is a surname index for each volume.

Illinois Historical Journal. Published by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency for the Illinois State Historical Society. (FHL book 977.3 B2i; computer numbers 55004 and 224322.) (See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for the address.) Previously known as the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, each issue contains articles and reviews pertaining to Illinois history. There are cumulative indexes for volumes 1–25, 26–50, and 51–60.

Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly.

1969–. Published by the Illinois State Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195. (FHL book 977.3 B2is; films 1954961–4 [vols. 7–25, index to vols. 1–25]; computer number 208820.) Covering the entire state, this provides articles about Illinois records and how to use them, as well as abstracts of records.

Prairie Roots. 1973–. Published by the Peoria Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1489, Peoria, IL 61655. (FHL book 977.352/PI B2p; computer number 55947.) This periodical focuses on Peoria County.

St. Clair County Genealogical Society Quarterly. 1978–. Published by the St. Clair County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 431, Belleville, IL 62222-0431. (FHL book 977.389 D25s; films 1976344, items 3–10 [vols. 1–9 no. 2]; 1976345, items 1–11 [vols. 9 no. 3–12 no. 1]; computer number 163025.) This periodical focuses on historical St. Clair County. Volume 20, number 4 is devoted entirely to county research and resources. A 10-year index is:

Schmidt, Martha Mae, comp. *Surname Index, 1978–1987, St. Clair County Genealogical Society Quarterlies.* Belleville, Ill.: The Society, 19–?. (FHL book 977.389 D25s index; computer number 580597.)

Where the Trails Cross. 1970–. Published by the South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society, P.O. Box 96, South Holland, IL 60473. (FHL book 977.31 B2w; films 1907605 [vols. 1–14], 1907634 [vols. 15–23]; computer number 208839.) This contains lists of World War I and II soldiers and abstracts of records from south Cook and north Will counties.

Indexes. Some of the periodicals listed above have annual indexes in the final issue for the year. For nationwide indexes to other family history periodicals, see the “Periodicals” section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972.)

The Periodical Source Index (PERSI) book and microfiche indexes are especially useful since they refer to countless items published in thousands of English and French-Canadian family history periodicals. The compact disc version, which merges all 29 PERSI volumes published through 1997 into one search, is:

Periodical Source Index (PERSI). Ft. Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1987-. (FHL book 973 D25per; fiche 6016863 [set of 40](1847 to 1985); fiche 6016864 [set of 15](1986 to 1990); computer number 658308; compact disc no. 61; computer number 808087.) For further details, see the *Periodical Source Index Resource Guide* (34119). PERSI is also available on the Internet for a subscription fee at www.Ancestry.com/ancestry/serch/3165.

For more family history periodicals, study the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - PERIODICALS
ILLINOIS - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS
ILLINOIS - SOCIETIES - PERIODICALS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - PERIODICALS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - PERIODICALS

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records in Illinois have been recorded by probate courts in larger counties or by county courts in less populated counties. Since the 1960s, probate matters have been in the circuit courts' jurisdiction. For counties where the probate records are not available on microfilm from the Family History Library™, contact the Clerk of the Circuit Court or an IRAD depository.

The Family History Library has microfilmed many Illinois probate records, generally from the date of the county's creation until the early 1900s. Probate records may include such documents as wills, letters of administration, guardianships, probate journals, probate packets, and adoptions. The probate packets, which contain all documents pertaining to a probate case, have the most genealogical information, but are not always available at the Family History Library.

Probate records may not give an exact death date, but the death most often occurred within a few months of the date of probate. Wills usually mention the names of heirs and frequently specify how those heirs are related. Names of children are given, as well as married names of daughters.

See the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for more information on probate records and their genealogical value.

Probate records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - PROBATE RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - PROBATE RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - GUARDIANSHIP

PUBLIC RECORDS

Many records created by city, county, and state governments do not fit into the categories described in this outline. Records of mayors, commissioners, overseers of the poor, and schools are examples of government sources that may give information not contained in other records. Some collections that contain a variety of records, such as land, history, tax, court, or other records, may be classified as public records.

SOCIETIES

Genealogical, historical, lineage, veteran, and ethnic societies often collect, transcribe, and publish information that can be helpful to genealogists.

Lineage societies, such as the DAR, Colonial Dames, and the Sons of the American Revolution, require members to prove they are descended from people such as colonists or soldiers. The applications for membership in these societies are usually preserved and occasionally published. National lineage societies such as the DAR are described in the "Societies" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

Genealogical and historical societies can provide historical information about families in the area or ancestors of society members. They may sponsor such activities as *The History of Illinois Centennial Farms and Applications for Illinois Prairie Pioneer Certificates*, cited in the "Genealogy" section of this outline.

Most genealogical societies focus on local and regional records, while others concentrate on the records and migrations of ethnic groups or minorities.

Societies may guide you to useful sources, suggest avenues of research, put you in touch with other genealogists who are interested in the same families, or perform research for you. The resources of the society may be helpful in determining immigrant origins. Genealogical and historical societies occasionally publish transcriptions of original records. Most publish quarterly periodicals, a few of which are listed in the "Periodicals" section of this outline.

Some genealogical and historical societies hold conferences in which lecturers discuss genealogical research methods, available sources, and other topics of interest to the genealogist. These lectures may include information on records or research helps on a local, regional, or national level. Transcripts, audio tapes, or syllabuses of the class outlines of these conferences are often made available to the public through the sponsoring society.

Many counties and some cities have historical and genealogical societies, most of which will be listed in the *Directory of Illinois Museums* and the book by Reithmaier, both cited in the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline. See the "Societies" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for a national directory of genealogical and ethnic societies.

See the "Minorities" section of this outline for other directories of ethnic organizations.

Family associations and surname societies have been organized to gather information about ancestors or descendants of specific individuals or families. See the "Societies" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for a directory and more information about these societies.

Clubs or occupational or fraternal organizations may have existed in the area where your ancestor lived. Those societies may have kept records of members or applications that may be of genealogical or biographical value. Though many of the old records have been lost, some have been donated to local, regional, or state archives and libraries. The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) is an example of an organization an ancestor may have joined. See the "Military Records" section of this outline for a discussion of their records.

Public librarians and county clerks may be aware of other local organizations or individuals you can

contact for information and services. In many small communities, the elderly are a wonderful resource for history and memories. Some maintain scrapbooks of obituaries and events in the community.

Information about society records and directories can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - SOCIETIES

ILLINOIS - GENEALOGY - SOCIETIES

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - SOCIETIES

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - SOCIETIES

TAXATION

The first tax records of Illinois were created in the late 1700s to early 1800s while Illinois was part of the Northwest Territory. These recorded an assessment for property tax on unimproved land. If payment became delinquent, the property was sold at public auction. However, most tax records created before statehood in 1818 have been lost.

After Illinois became a state, tax records of various kinds were kept in the counties, where records began about 1817. Examples of the kind of tax records you might find are: land taxes, poor taxes, school taxes, and county road taxes. A person was also taxed for having bank stock, slaves, and indentured Blacks or Mulattoes.

While tax lists are often used as substitutes for missing census records, in Illinois they do not represent every household. Those who did not own taxable land or property were not listed. No voting or poll taxes were imposed. Most Illinois land purchased from the federal government was not taxable for five years. Therefore, a person appearing on a tax list for the first time may have actually lived in the area for several years.

Many tax records are housed in the county seats of each county. They include assessors' books, railroad tax books, collectors' books, taxable land lists, delinquent taxes, and road tax books. Some original and microfilmed copies are in the Illinois Regional Archives Depositories (IRAD). See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for an explanation of IRAD and its holdings.

The Family History Library™ has microfilm copies of some Illinois tax records. A list of persons taxed during the Civil War is:

United States. Bureau of Internal Revenue. *Internal Revenue Assessment Lists for Illinois, 1862–1866*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0764. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1968?. (FHL film 1534562–624; computer number 463729.) This extensive tax list shows monthly and annual taxes on personal property, income, those who produced and distributed goods, and on licenses to practice and do business. Illinois was divided into 13 tax districts. Cook County is in District 1, Sangamon County in District 8, Peoria County in District 5, and St. Clair County in District 12. Each film has a full list of counties and the districts to which they belonged.

Illinois taxation records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - TAXATION

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - TAXATION

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - TAXATION

VITAL RECORDS

Birth and Death Records

Birth records usually give the name and sex of the child; the names, birthplaces, and ages of the parents (with the mother's maiden name); the occupation of the father; and the number of children born to the mother. Birth records of adopted children may give the birth parents but have frequently been amended to show only the adoptive parents. A year-by-year search of birth records may reveal other children born to a couple.

Death records usually give information about the deceased, such as name, age, birth date, state or country of birth (sometimes the city or town), names of the parents (frequently including the maiden name of the mother), and the informant (who may be a close relative). The date and place of death are given. Sometimes burial information, the cause of death, and the names of the physician and mortician are provided. The length of residence in the state or county may also be given.

County Records of Births and Deaths

A few county clerks kept vital records as early as 1838. Illinois law required the filing of vital records in 1877, but not all counties complied. The Family History Library™ has film copies of these documents for many counties. Existing originals may be found in the county clerk's office or in the Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) serving that county. See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for locations of those depositories.

Delayed registrations of births are available from the county where the birth occurred. The Family History Library has records dating from 1941 for some counties.

State Records of Births and Deaths

In Illinois the statewide registration of vital statistics began in 1916 and was generally complied with by 1922. The Family History Library has copies of some statewide birth and death records of Illinois in:

Illinois. Department of Public Health. State Registrar. *Illinois Births, Prior to Act, Excluding Chicago: 1842, 1849–1872*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1995. (FHL films 1992052, 1992136–140; computer number 767896.)

Illinois. Public Board of Health. Archives. *Death Certificates for the State of Illinois, 1916–1945, Excluding Chicago, with the Exception of Stillbirths*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988–1992. (On 666 FHL films beginning with 1530531; computer number 533094.) The Illinois State Archives also has microfilm copies of the index and certificates.

Illinois. Department of Public Health. State Registrar. *Illinois Death Certificates and Stillbirths, Including Chicago, 1946–1947*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1995. (On 84 FHL films beginning with 1984845; computer number 772669.)

The Department of Public Health, Division of Vital Records, can issue certified copies of birth and death records or uncertified photocopies for genealogical research. To obtain application forms,

copies of certificates, and more information on fees and restrictions, call or write to:

Illinois Department of Public Health
Division of Vital Records
605 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, IL 62702-5097
(217) 782-6553

Marriages

Several types of marriage records were kept, such as marriage registers, marriage returns, and marriage applications. Sometimes only one type of marriage record was preserved or filmed.

The marriage registers before 1877 provide little more than the date of marriage, names of the bride and groom, and the person who performed the marriage. Starting in 1877, pre-printed marriage register books in Illinois provided columns for ages, residences, birth places, and sometimes the names of the parents or guardians of the bride and groom.

Marriage returns were reported by the minister or Justice of the Peace who performed the marriage. County histories can be checked to learn which religion and congregation a minister served. Ministers' returns may reveal that the marriage took place in a private residence, often the home of a parent or relative.

The county clerk usually kept marriage records from the time the county was organized. A few records date from the 1790s, but couples were not required to obtain a marriage license until 1877. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the records to approximately 1920 for many counties. IRAD depositories have originals and film copies of marriage records and licenses for many counties.

The counties continue to record marriages to the present day and only county clerks can issue certified copies of the marriage certificate. A statewide register of marriages was started on 1 January 1962 as county clerks forwarded marriage information to the Illinois Department of Health. If you do not know the county where a couple married after 1962, the Division of Vital Records (see address above) can search their statewide register and provide the marriage date and county.

The Illinois State Archives and the Illinois State Genealogical Society are creating a microfiche index to marriages in many counties of Illinois from the earliest settlement to 1900. This index is not yet completed, though it contains nearly one million marriages. It is an excellent source for locating a county of residence when only the state is known. A list of counties and dates covered is found on the first microfiche of this set:

Illinois. State Archives Division. *Illinois Marriage Record Index, 1763-1916*. Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Archives and Illinois State Genealogical Society, 1994. (FHL microfiche 6334564 [set of 94]; computer number 734561.) (Not available at Family History Centers™.) This index includes the names of the bride and groom, date, county of marriage, and license number or volume and page. The years indexed vary from county to county with most being indexed through 1900. A few counties have been indexed up to 1916. Eighty-four counties are included as of 1998 in this ongoing project. Cook County (Chicago area) records are indexed for the years 1833 to 1891.

More than 6,600 names from 3,300 marriages are listed in:

Dodd, Jordan R., ed. *Illinois Marriages: Early to 1825: A Research Tool*. Bountiful, Utah: Precision Indexing, 1990. (FHL book 977.3 V22im; computer number 605392.) The names of spouses, the date, and the county are listed. This index was compiled by Liahona Research Inc. from some of the county marriage records on microfilm or in books at the Family History Library. A list of the counties indexed can be found at the beginning of the book.

The Family History Library has a number of compact discs with vital records information from many states which can be used in the Automated Resource Center (ARC) of the library. For Illinois the following may be helpful:

Marriage Records. Automated Archives. Orcm, Utah: Automated Archives, 1994. (FHL compact disc no. 9, pt. 2; computer number 683379.) (Not available at Family History Centers.) This file was acquired from the "Hunting for Bears" collection which was compiled from published books, microfilm copies, or original county records of several states. The introduction to this file gives information regarding which counties

and years are included and the extraction methods used. Marriages which took place in an unknown county are listed at the beginning of the index. It is not a complete index to Illinois marriage records.

Marriage Records, Early to 1850. Automated Archives. Orem, Utah: Automated Archives, 1996. (FHL compact disc no. 9, pt. 228; computer number 683380.) (Not available at Family History Centers.) This is an index to Illinois and Indiana marriage records compiled from county records and published by Liahona, Inc. The index uses the Soundex code for quick access to surnames. It lists marriages by county and gives the marriage date. The introduction lists the counties, the time periods covered, and the FHL film numbers. Again, this is not a complete index to Illinois marriage records.

Chicago and Cook County

The records for Chicago and Cook County are available for as early as 1871. Earlier records were destroyed by fire. The library has copies of many of the vital records for Chicago including birth records to 1933, death records to 1945, and marriage records to 1920.

Guide to Vital Records

You can learn more about state and county vital records as well as the laws of Illinois affecting them in:

Guide to Public Vital Statistics Records in Illinois. Chicago: Illinois Historical Records Survey, 1941. Reprint, Thomson, Ill.: Heritage House, 1976. (FHL book 977.3 V23h; film 982030, item 5; fiche 6051164; computer number 213095.)

See the "Vital Records" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for more detailed information on the value and content of vital records. For divorce records, see the "Divorce Records" section of this outline.

Vital records can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - VITAL RECORDS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - VITAL RECORDS

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

For related record types, see the "Newspapers," "Obituaries," "Cemeteries," "Church Records," "Genealogy," "Biography," and "Funeral Homes" sections of this outline.

Coroner's inquests, hospital, and midwife records may also contain birth and death information. These records may only be available through existing hospitals and coroner's offices. IRAD depositories have coroners inquest records for many counties and a few county hospital records. A few of these records may be found in the Family History Library Catalog using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - MEDICAL RECORDS

VOTING REGISTERS

To make it easier for election officials, voting registers were often arranged alphabetically by the names of citizens eligible to vote. In addition to the name and address of the voter, these may contain naturalization information and date and place of birth. There was no poll tax on persons eligible to vote in Illinois.

Voting records that serve as a substitute for the 1890 census of Chicago and vicinity are found in:

Chicago (Illinois). Board of Election Commissioners. *Record and Index of Persons Registered and of Poll Lists of Voters, Northern District of Illinois, City of Chicago, 1888, 1888-90, 1892; Town of Lake View, 1888; Town of Hyde Park, 1888; Town of Lake, 1888.* Springfield, Ill.: Office of the Secretary of State, Micrographics Division, Source Document Unit, 1989. (FHL films 1730744-66; computer number 552893.)

For voters in Chicago in 1937, see the *Lurie Index* mentioned in the "Directories" section of this outline.

Original poll (voter) lists may be found in the custody of county clerks and in IRAD depositories. The Family History Library™ has few such lists for Illinois, other than those for Chicago. Those available can be found in the Family History

Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS, [COUNTY] - VOTING REGISTERS
ILLINOIS, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - VOTING
REGISTERS

OTHER RECORDS

Other types of records for Illinois that are not discussed in this outline can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search. For example, see the following topics:

- BUSINESS RECORDS AND COMMERCE
- CHURCH DIRECTORIES
- CHURCH HISTORY
- GUARDIANSHIP
- HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
- LAW AND LEGISLATION
- MEDICAL RECORDS
- MIGRATION, INTERNAL
- MILITARY HISTORY
- NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL
- OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES
- SCHOOLS

FOR FURTHER READING

Several handbooks give further information about research, records, and record-finding aids in Illinois. Among these are:

Beckstead, Gayle, and Mary Lou Kozub. *Searching in Illinois: A Reference Guide to Public and Private Records*. Costa Mesa, Calif.: ISC Publications, 1984. (FHL book 977.3 D27b; computer number 351697.) This is a good source for locating federal, state, county, and city or town records and resources. It also gives lists of cemeteries, libraries, and newspapers and shows addresses of genealogical and historical societies. This guide has a special emphasis for adoptees.

Clements, John. *Illinois Facts: A Comprehensive Look at Illinois Today, County by County*. Dallas, Tex. Clements Research II, 1989. (FHL book 977.3 B5if; computer number 669150.) This book gives details on the government offices and their functions and provides descriptions of each county, its location, climate, people, economy, and transportation.

Eichholz, Alice, ed. *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1992. (FHL book 973 D27rb 1992; computer number 594021.) It contains bibliographies and background information on history and ethnic groups. It also contains maps and tables showing when each county was created.

Genealogical Sources in Chicago, Illinois 1835-1900. Chicago: Chicago Genealogical Society, 1982. (FHL book 977.311 D27g; fiche 6051029 [set of 2]; computer number 142327.) This contains Chicago maps and a list of ward boundaries in addition to suggesting sources for Chicago research.

Gooldy, Pat, and Ray Gooldy. *Manual for Illinois Genealogical Research*. Indianapolis, Ind.: Ye Olde Genealogie Shoppe, 1994. (FHL book 977.3 D27g; computer number 750994.) The source gives addresses of county courthouses, genealogical societies, and record repositories and gives Illinois locations of record categories such as census, land, military, and church records.

O'Hara, Margaret. *Finding Your Chicago Ancestor*. 2nd ed. N.p.: M. O'Hara, 1982. (FHL book 977.311 D27o 1982; film 1597813; computer number 559731; 1st edition, book 977.311 D27o 1981; fiche 6051413; computer number 104886.) This includes a list of the churches in Chicago by denominations and ethnic groups, suggests sources for research, and gives addresses of various archives.

Szucs, Loretto Dennis. *Chicago and Cook County: A Guide to Research*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1996. (FHL book 977.31 D27sL; computer number 764732.) Chapters describe record types and the major archives and libraries in Chicago and Cook County holding such records. Selected bibliographies are found at the end of some chapters.

Additional resources can be found in the Family History Library Catalog™ by using a Locality Search under:

ILLINOIS - GENEALOGY - HANDBOOKS,
MANUALS, ETC.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library™ welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 N. West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
USA

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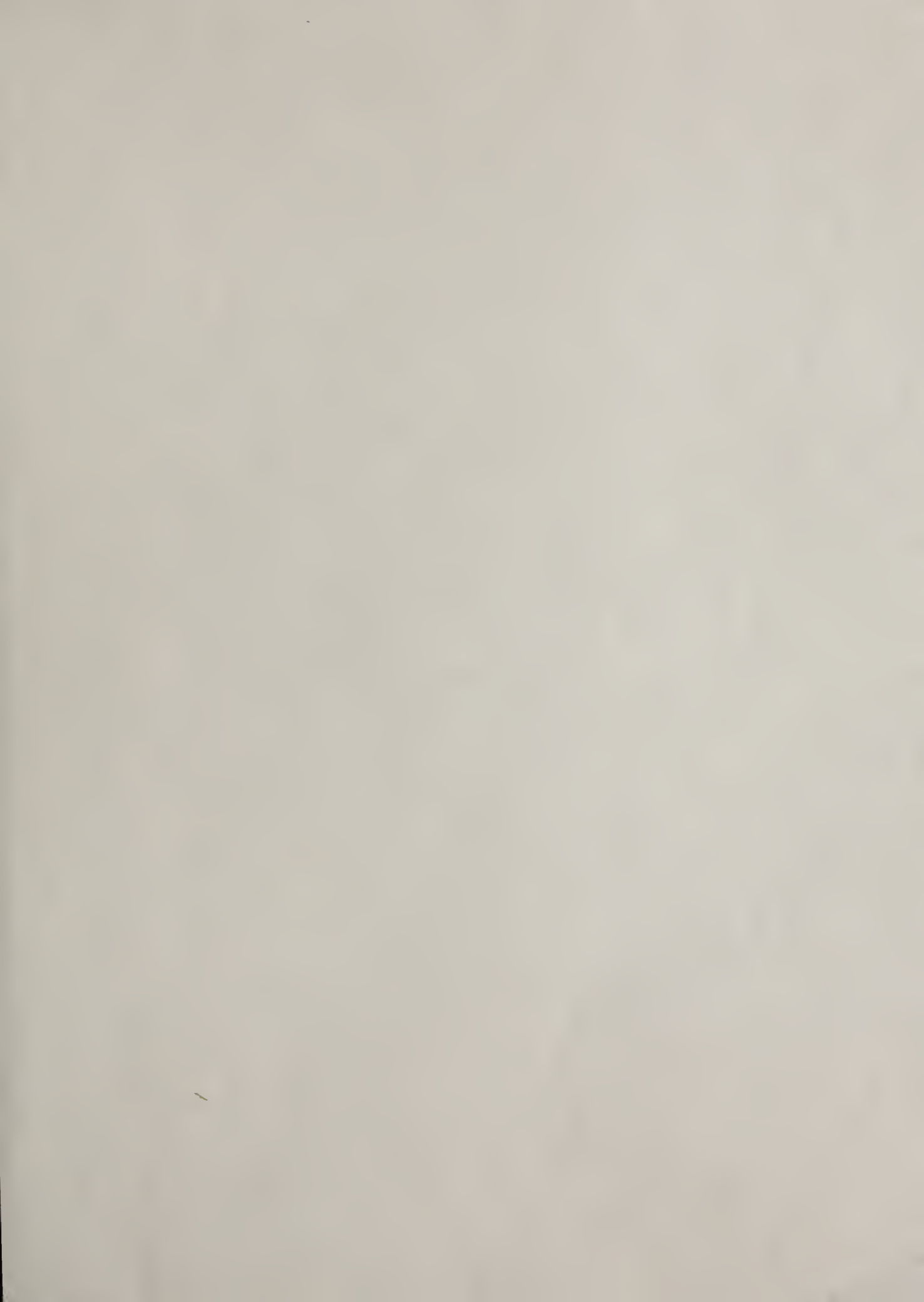
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